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PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED

NIKITA KOLOFF & DUSTY RHODES *SUPERPOWER SUMMIT!*

The Fans Demand:
IT'S TIME FOR A WWF HOUSECLEANING!

TED DiBIASE: "I'M TIRED OF BEING THE UWF'S
WHIPPING BOY!"

PRESS CONFERENCE: DINGO WARRIOR



RINGSIDE

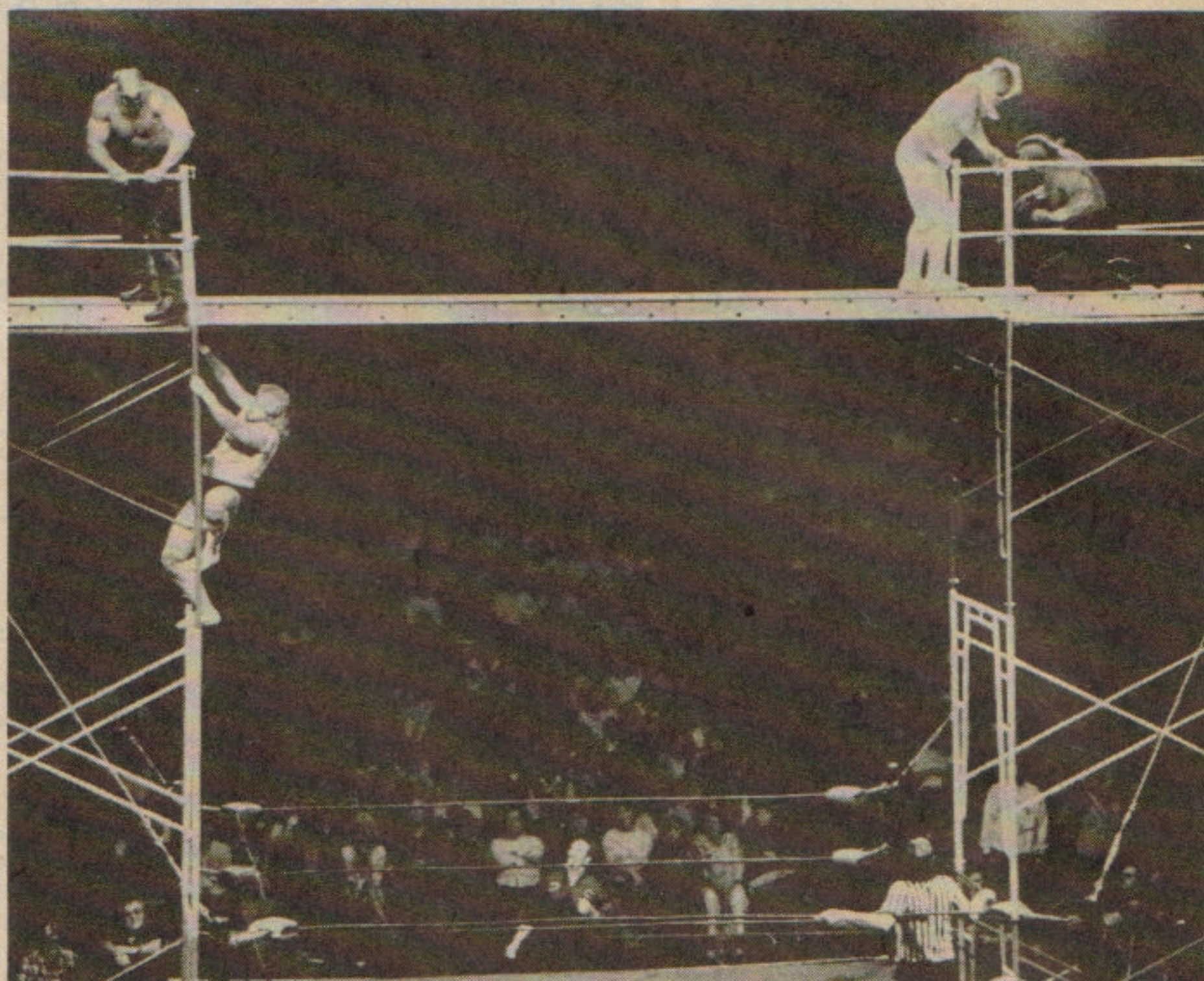
With Bill Apter

THANKSGIVING DAY USED to mean just football and turkey, but now it means wrestling shows, some of the biggest and best of the year, held by most of the major federations.

We'll start off with Jim Crockett Promotions' Starrcade, which took place in Greensboro, North Carolina, and Atlanta and was beamed to several closed-circuit locations. The Omni, which drew a crowd of 13,190, featured **The Road Warriors** against **The Midnight Express** in a scaffold match as its main event. Most noteworthy was that **Road Warrior Hawk** did wrestle, despite a broken leg he suffered in Japan late last month. It was a courageous—perhaps even foolish—performance considering what damage might have been caused by a 20-foot fall.

The end of the match was extraordinary. With all four men hanging from the bottom of the scaffold, Hawk and **Animal** kicked **Dennis Condrey** down to the mat. Then Hawk climbed down into the ring and **Jim Cornette** climbed to the top of the scaffold. He tried to get at Animal with his tennis racket, but **Paul Ellering** appeared on the scene. Double-teamed and helpless, Cornette was also pushed off the platform.

In a much-anticipated match for the NWA World championship, **Ric Flair** and **Nikita Koloff** battled to a double-disqualification after many wrestlers interfered. To my surprise, many fans booed Nikita and this has affected his position in our Most Popular ratings (see "Ratings Analysis" on page 24). In Greensboro, before a sold-out arena of 15,700 fans (and another 2,213 viewing on closed-circuit), NWA World tag champions **The**



In the dramatic scaffold match at Starrcade on Thanksgiving night, The Road Warriors defeated The Midnight Express when Hawk and Animal kicked Dennis Condrey down to the mat. On the left, Hawk tries to keep Condrey off the scaffold, and on the right, Animal and Bobby Eaton slug it out.

Rock 'n' Roll Express defeated **Ole** and **Arn Anderson** in a cage match and **Tully Blanchard** won the NWA TV title from **Dusty Rhodes** in a first blood match. In that bout, referee **Earl Hebner** was knocked out and didn't see Dusty draw blood from Tully. Blanchard then took a roll of coins from **J.J. Dillon** and made Dusty bleed, just as Hebner came around. For further details and complete pictorial coverage, see the March 1987 issue of **Sports Review Wrestling**, now on sale.

Over 12,000 fans were at The Superdome for the UWF's big show. The most interesting match on this fine card was an unusual, and very creative, double cage match. In the first cage, **Terry Taylor** wrestled **Buddy Roberts**, and in the second cage, **Steve Williams** met **Michael Hayes**. The first man to win his

match would be allowed to go into the other cage.

Taylor won first and was headed into the second cage when he was distracted by **Sunshine** and attacked by Roberts. Finally, Taylor worked his way into the second cage and joined Dr. Death to beat the Thanksgiving stuffing out of The 'Birds. Then, to finish things off, Williams spanked Sunshine!

John Tatum and **Jack Victory** were scheduled to wrestle **The Fantastics**, but Tatum broke both his ankles in an auto accident two days before the show (see "Wrestling Enquirer," page 68). **Mike George** was named as his substitute and The Fantastics had little trouble with this makeshift team as **Tommy Rogers** pinned Victory. In another big match, **Hacksaw Duggan** defeated UWF

(Continued on page 52)

KING'S COURT

By Peter King



In eight years as a pro, Barry Windham has won many regional titles. He now feels it's time to concentrate on winning the NWA championship.

THE ROAD TRAVELED by Barry Windham has not been a straight one. In fact, it has had more loops than a rollercoaster.

Windham began his career in Salt Lake City, but reached national prominence in Florida. He then moved on to the Mid-Atlantic area. After that, it was back to Florida. After another successful tour of the Sunshine State, it was back to the Mid-Atlantic area. From there, he journeyed to the WWF. After that, it was back to Florida. Recently, he has returned to the Mid-Atlantic area,

which, since Windham's last tour there, has expanded and is now known as the World Championship area.

Despite his travels, there is one constant that follows the 6'5" 236-pound Windham wherever he goes—success. Although he is still quite young, Windham has already amassed a catalogue of titles that most 20-year veterans would covet: Florida champion. Southern champion. U.S. tag team champion. WWF World tag team champion. These are only some of the major titles that this talented young man has earned in less than eight years.

Windham's return to the World Championship area marks a turning point in his career. "I am now going to put every working hour toward my goal," the soft-spoken Texan said. "I want the NWA championship. Regional titles and tag team titles are great. But now it's time I won the big one. I'm ready."

During his various stays in Florida, Windham engaged in some titanic struggles with Flair. In a recent interview, Flair named Windham as one of the five toughest opponents he has ever faced. Windham snickered when he was shown a copy of Flair's interview.

"This is something I have to be careful of," Windham said. "Flair is the finest wrestler in the world—I give him that. But he's much more.

He's intelligent and he's a master at psyching out his opponents. It's flattering that Flair would say that about me, but I've gotta put it out of my mind. When Ric Flair says something nice about a prospective opponent, you gotta be careful. He's got something planned. It's kinda like a coyote complimenting a sheep on how meaty and tender he looks."

To newer fans of wrestling, Windham's statement might sound like paranoia. But longtime Flair observers know he is right. Perhaps the only subject Ric Flair knows better than wrestling is psychology.

There was a time when wrestling experts thought Barry Windham was being pushed too fast. Many people predicted that his career would be spectacular but brief. But Windham, who recently turned 26, has proved them wrong. He has become better each year. One reason for this is that he has continually made the right choices both inside and outside the ring. For instance, his coming to and leaving the WWF were excellent in their timing.

"I came to the WWF at the right time," Windham said. "They were at the beginning of their expansion movement, and it gave me a chance to wrestle the best wrestlers in the world. But it wasn't long before I realized I was burning out. The travel was incredible, and the demands on my body were great. And the matches themselves were becoming brawls, not wrestling encounters. I could've stayed there and made more money quickly, but I felt it would hinder me for the rest of my life. I feel I made the right decision to leave when I did."

History bears Windham out on that. A quick look at some of the wrestlers who have stayed in the WWF proves just how smart Windham was. When Windham was in the WWF, Nikolai Volkoff and The Iron Sheik were excellent main-event wrestlers. Today, they have become no more than journeymen. Volkoff, for instance, is being pinned by men

(Continued on page 51)

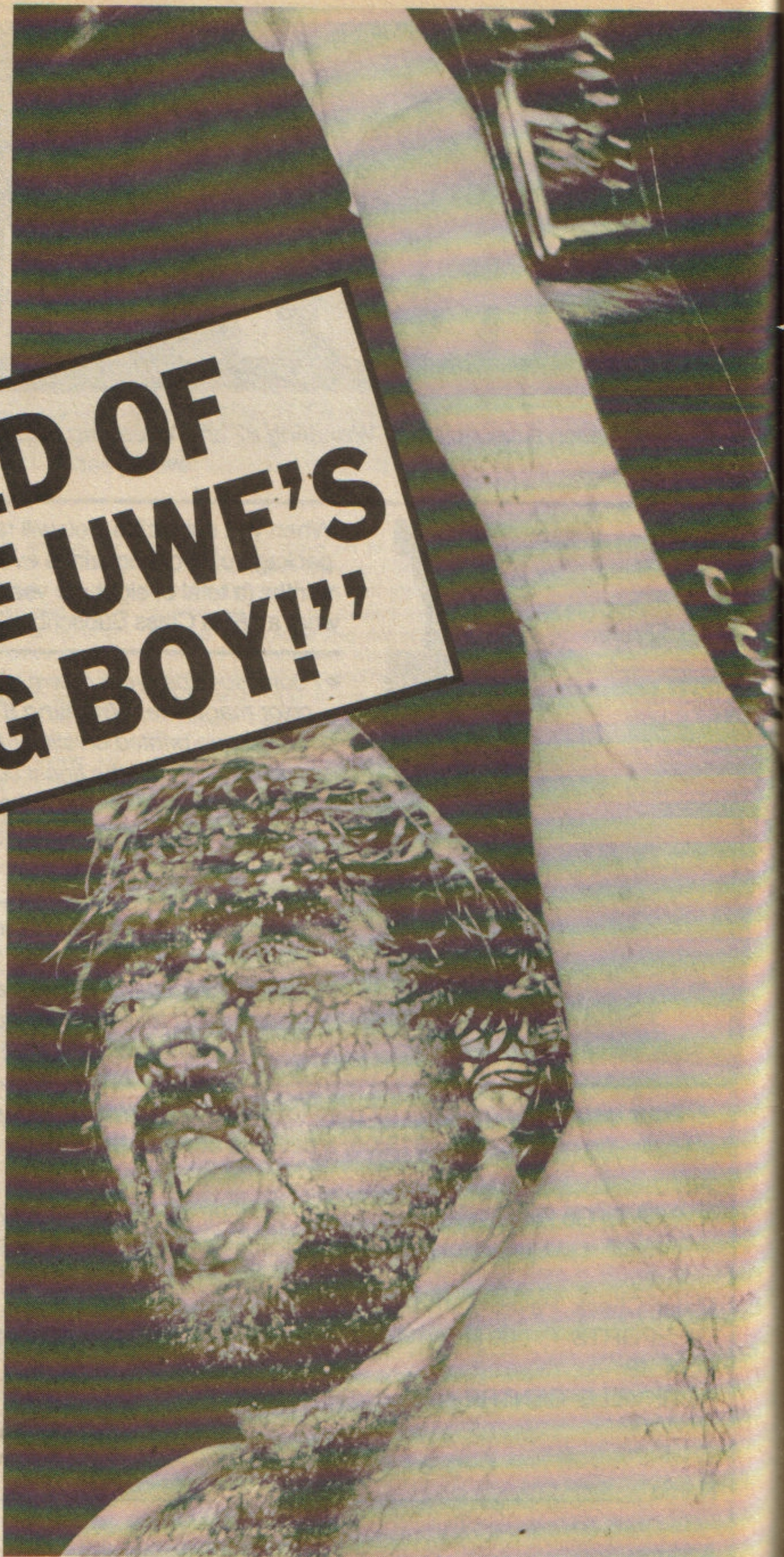
TED DiBIASE:

**"I'M TIRED OF
BEING THE UWF'S
WHIPPING BOY!"**

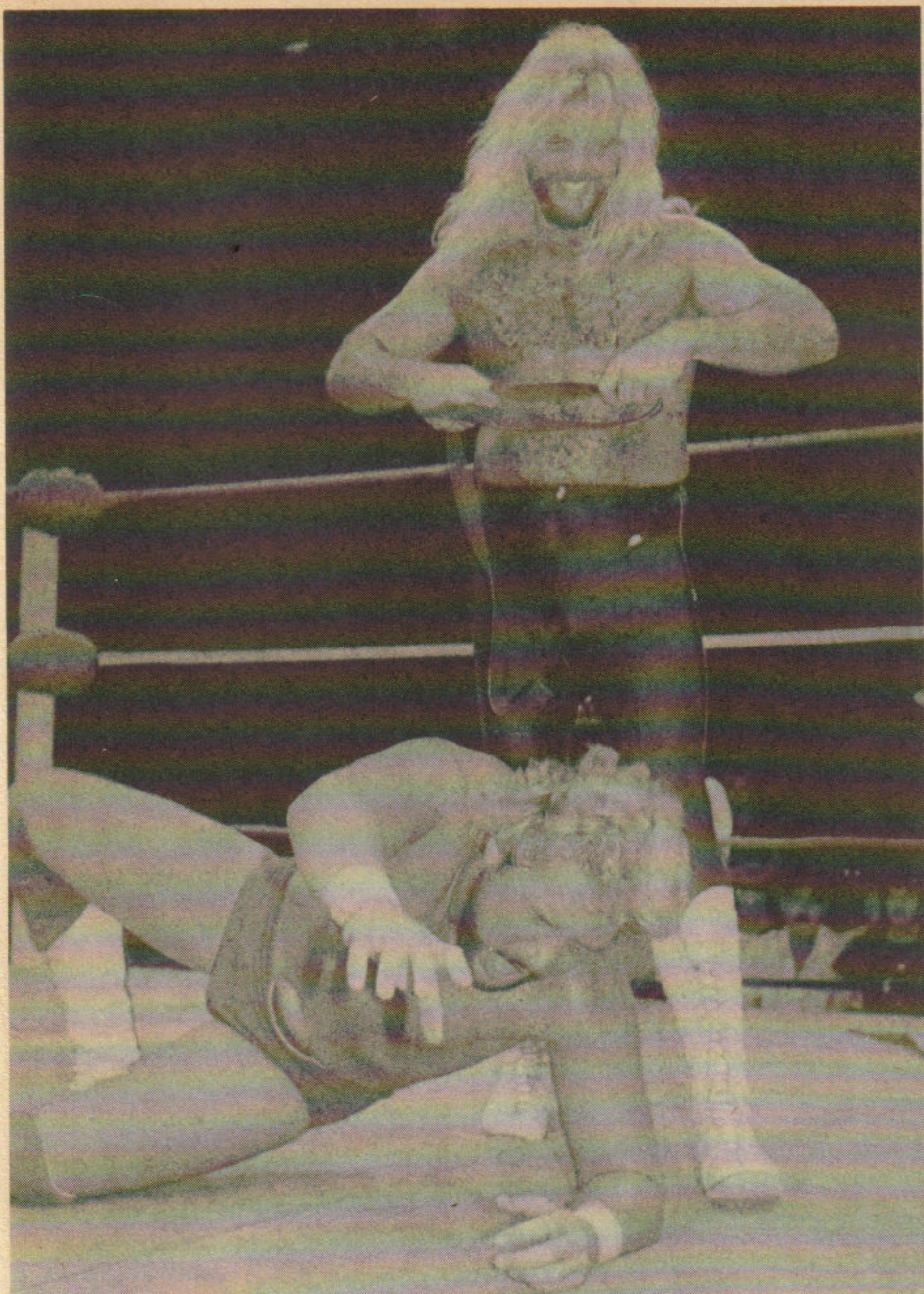
TED DiBIASE TOOK off his shirt and looked at it in disgust. The fabric was stained with blood, and when he turned around the reason was obvious. His back was covered with long, red welts, and blood oozed from his neck. Calmly, DiBiase washed off the blood and put on a fresh bandage. Then he put on his wrestling tights and headed out to the training room.

Blood, welts on the back, pain—they've all become commonplace recently for DiBiase. "I can't lay on my back when I sleep," he complains.

Ted DiBiase holds the belt high after defeating then-UWF champion Terry Gordy, but the title was given back to Gordy on a technicality. DiBiase says this is an example of how the UWF is mistreating him.



Ted DiBiase's series of country whipping matches against Michael Hayes were as symbolic as they were violent. DiBiase feels that he isn't being treated fairly by the UWF—and he is angrier at the federation than he is at his rival



"I've learned to sleep on my side and even that hurts when I turn. I've been through a lot, but these country whipping matches are a bit much."

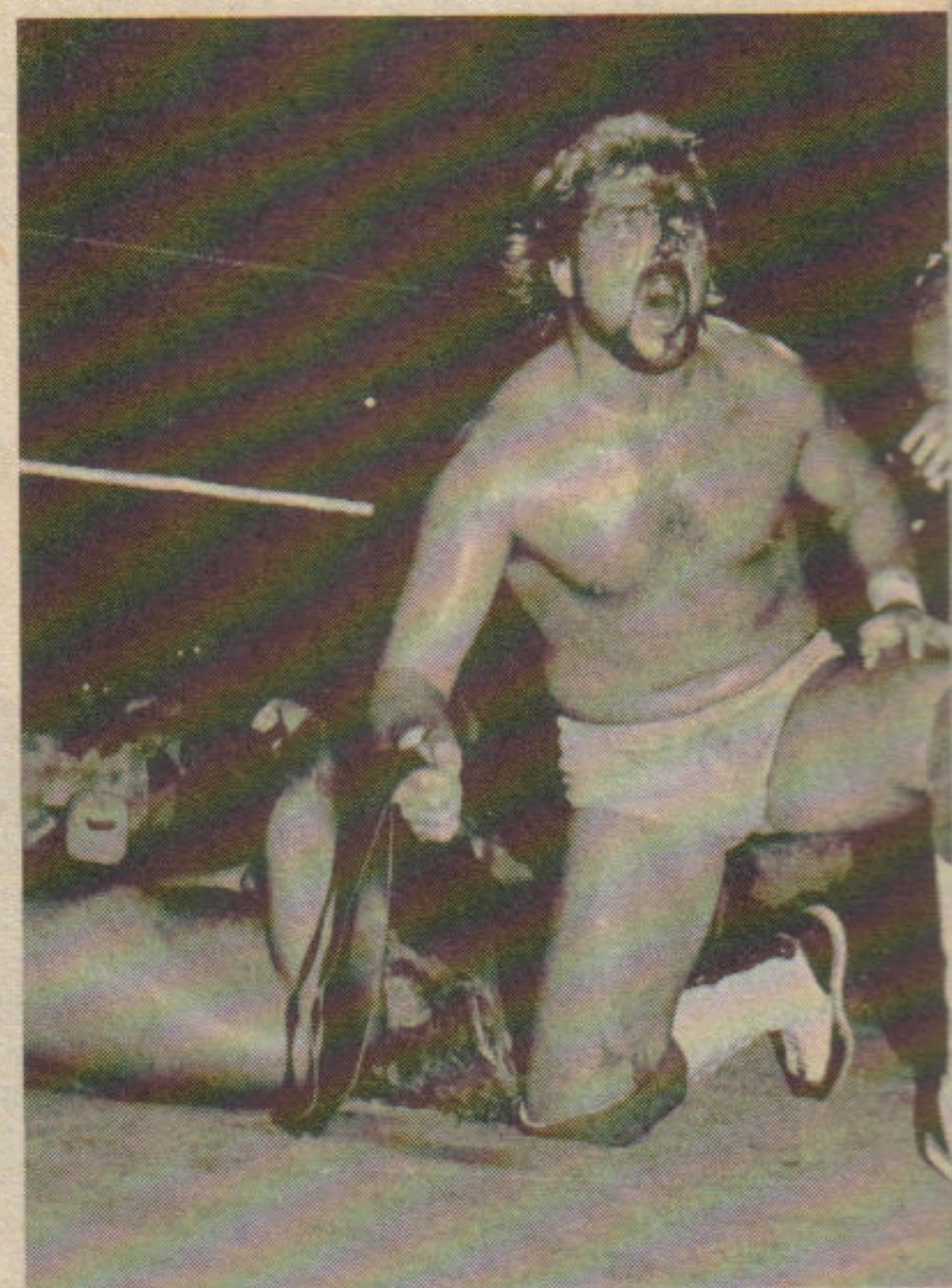
DiBiase actually has himself to blame for the pain. It all started when referee Tommy Gilbert was knocked out during a DiBiase-Michael Hayes match. Hayes removed Gilbert's belt and began to whip a defenseless DiBiase. "If that's the way he wants it, that's the way it's gonna be," said an enraged DiBiase afterward. "If he wants to whip me with a strap, fine. Let's have a country whipping match!"

Hayes, never one to back down from a challenge, agreed, and since then the two archrivals have buckled

down for a series of matches that have both thrilled and horrified UWF fans. In fact, the matches have brought out the former rulebreaker in fan favorite DiBiase. One night in Tulsa, DiBiase removed the infamous black glove from his trunks, put it on, and slugged Hayes in the face. Even DiBiase seemed surprised by what he had done.

In a country whipping match, each man is supplied with a short strap. The wrestlers are allowed to hit each other as they please, and in most cases tremendous pain is inflicted. By the end of the match, the sickening sound of hard leather meeting raw flesh is enough to make even the most hardened fan cover his eyes.

DiBiase's foe in a series of country whipping matches has been Michael Hayes, who gleefully watches DiBiase scream out in pain (left). His rulebreaking instincts awakened, DiBiase shows Hayes how it's done (below).



Hayes, however, seems to enjoy inflicting pain on DiBiase, even if he has had to take some in return. "Every time that leather strap slaps against his skin, I get this rush because I know what I'm doing to him," he says. "DiBiase done got himself into something he just don't know how to handle, and I'm here to teach him a lesson."

But DiBiase seems to have more on his mind than Hayes. "I've had enough of that low-down creep and I'd just as soon get these matches over with," he said. "I can't waste my time with a guy like Hayes, but ever since I asked for the country whipping matches, it's all the promoters here are giving me. Listen, I'm tired of messing with has-beens and guys trying to climb up the ladder. I'm sick of being the UWF's whipping boy!"

No pun intended, insists DiBiase as he walks away, but the connection is not coincidental. One Man Gang is UWF champion. This irritates DiBiase, who thinks that he's a better wrestler than OMG. Steve Williams and Terry Taylor, both friends of DiBiase's, continue to get title matches against OMG. Meanwhile,

DiBiase is left to settle his feud with Hayes, wondering where it will get him in the end.

Ted DiBiase is one of the most talented wrestlers in the UWF. There is no doubt about that. He is sixth in the current UWF ratings and was ranked as high as second in a recent straw poll of wrestlers in the area. The fans love him. He is considered a total wrestler, a man as capable in a scientific match as he is in a brawl. DiBiase established himself long ago.

Instead, he's relegated to a series of matches against Michael Hayes,

with no guarantees of title matches to the ultimate winner. DiBiase feels, perhaps rightfully so, that he is being used by the UWF. Once, when Gordy was champion, DiBiase substituted for Steve Williams and scored a clean pinfall. Hayes, however, claimed that it would be unfair for Gordy to lose his title to a contender for whom he had not prepared. The UWF agreed and Gordy was allowed to keep the belt.

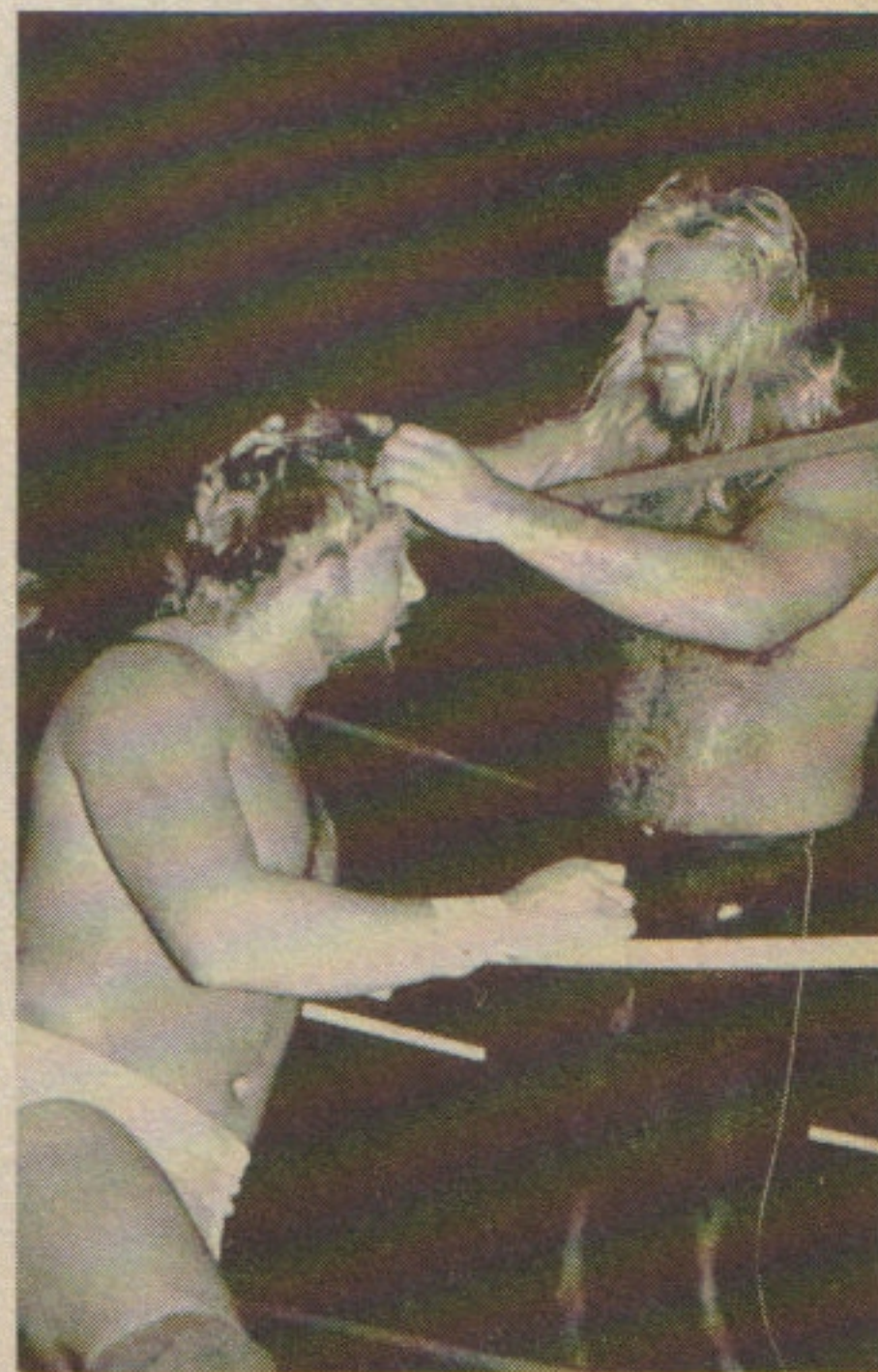
"The UWF knew that the contract was between Gordy and Williams, so why did they let me go into the

match thinking I had a shot at the title?" asks DiBiase. "I assumed that all the legal crap was taken care of before they asked me to substitute. I did the promoters a favor by filling in, and what do I get in return? And this bull about Gordy training to wrestle Williams ... Remember, I had just as little time to prepare for Gordy as he had for me."

In other words, DiBiase thinks that he should be the current champion, not One Man Gang, or, at the very least, he should be the number one contender for the belt. "But they just



Hayes struts his stuff as DiBiase recovers from another beating (above). In another match, Hayes pulls his nemesis back into the ring (top right).



let me waste my time with Hayes, a guy I've beaten countless times. What a waste!"

DiBiase turns around and points at his back. "Look at these welts, look at these damn things!" he growls. "I'm a wrestler, not a racehorse, and I'm not in this to whip or be whipped. I know it, I asked for these matches, but I asked for one, just to teach Hayes a lesson."

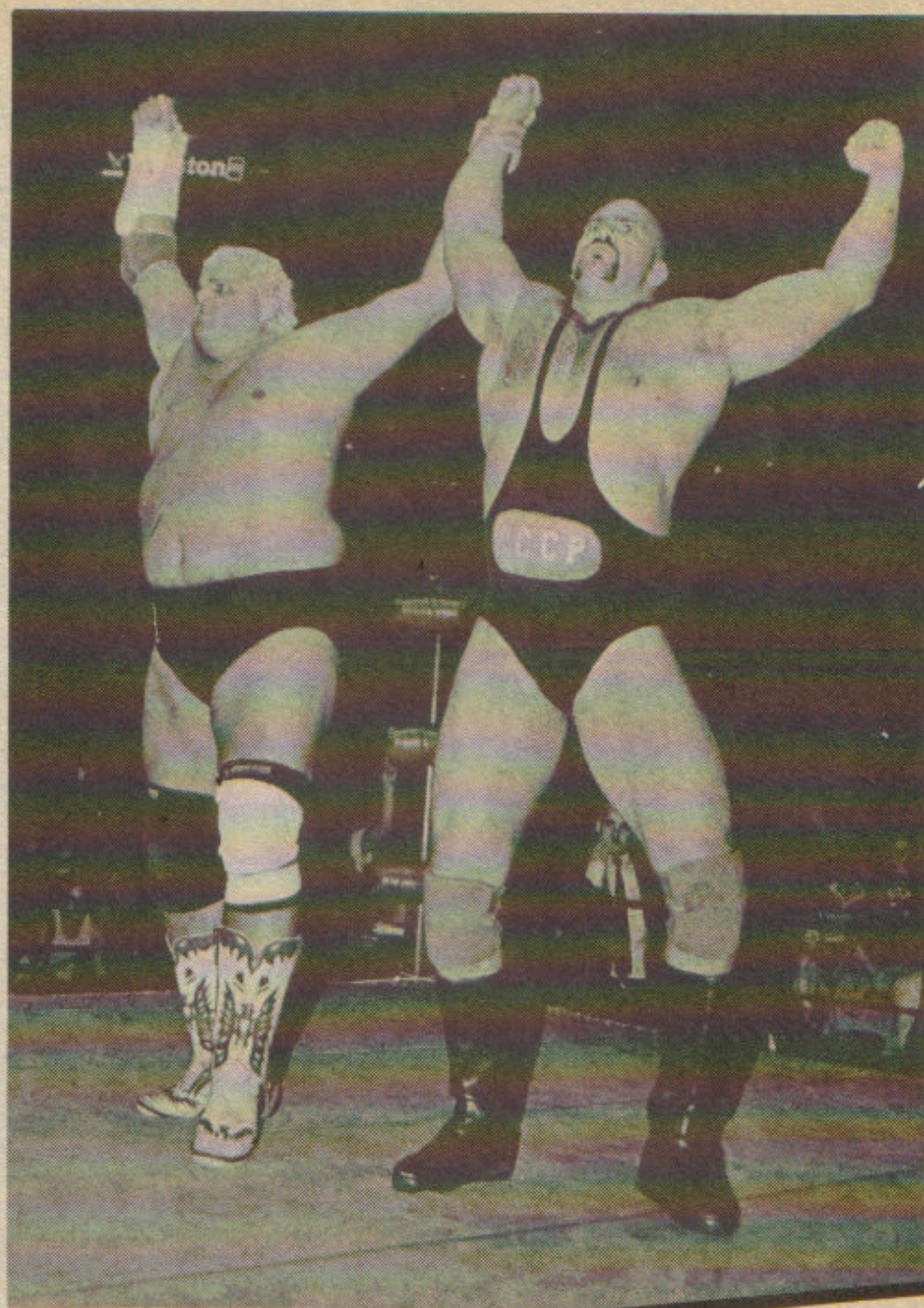
He puts on a clean shirt and walks toward the far wall. On the bulletin board is One Man Gang's schedule of title defenses for the following two weeks. DiBiase glances at it hopefully, but knows his name will not be listed. "This is garbage," he says, and angrily tears down the sheet. "I deserve better."

Maybe so. □

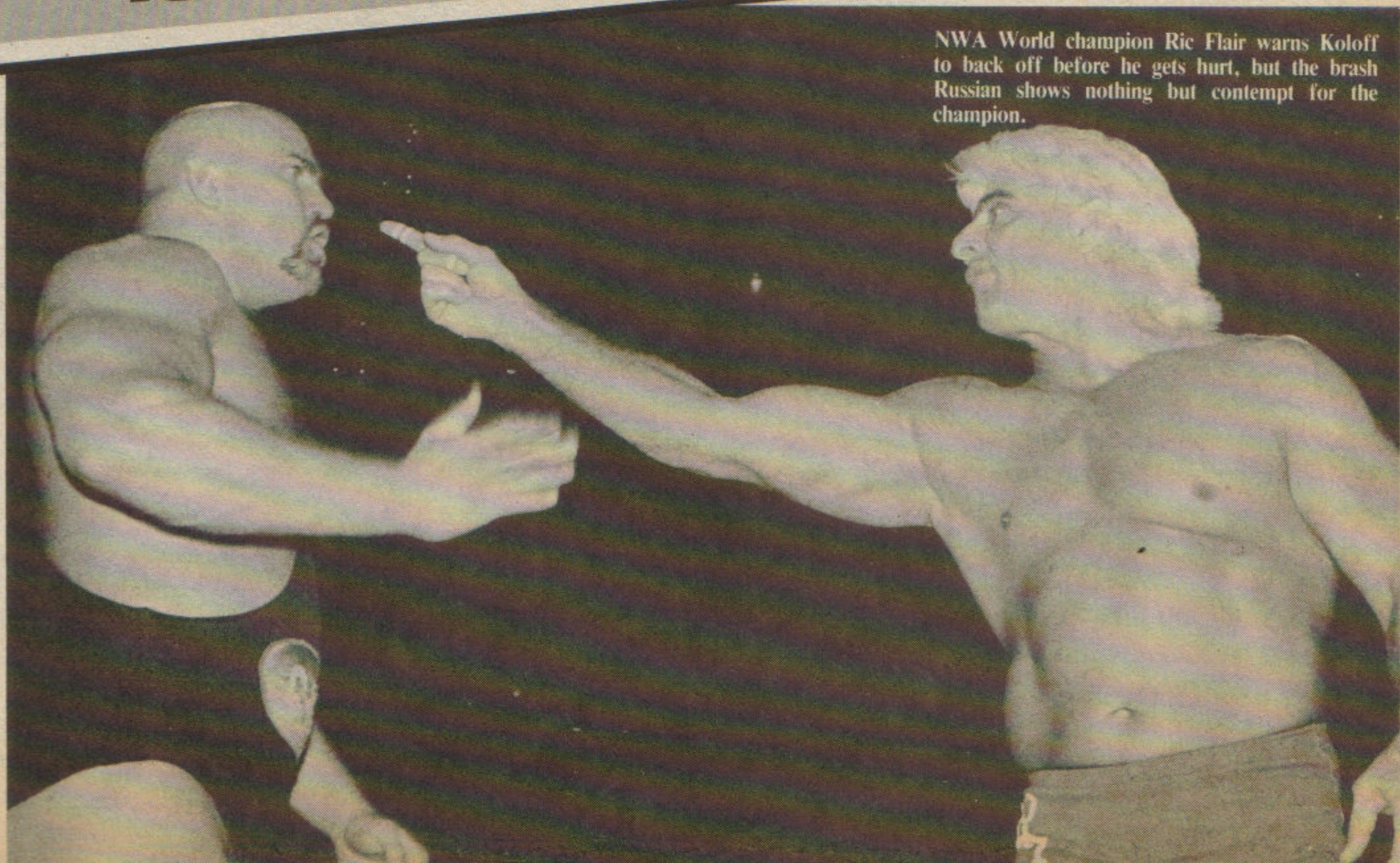
DUSTY RHODES & NIKITA KOLOFF:

Dusty Rhodes and Nikita Koloff never agreed about much, but now they're unified in their respect for the injured Magnum T.A. Together, they've formed The Superpowers, a tag team as unlikely as it is spectacular

Photos by Floyd See and Bruce Krietzman



SUPERPOWER



NWA World champion Ric Flair warns Koloff to back off before he gets hurt, but the brash Russian shows nothing but contempt for the champion.

TOGETHER, THEY'RE A most unlikely combination, even more so than Abbott and Costello, Laurel and Hardy, or Felix and Oscar. Dusty Rhodes and Nikita Koloff are a team that makes heads turn. Nobody would ever have guessed that "The American Dream" and "The Russian Nightmare" would come together to form "The Superpowers."

It's a pacifist's wildest dream come true. If this can happen, the end of the cold war between the United States and the Soviet Union must be in sight. There is hope for mankind! We're not gonna be blown to smithereens! Chernobyl was just an honest mistake! The Russians really *didn't* mean to blow a civilian aircraft out of the sky!

Now, let's not go too far. There still is a pretty cold cold war going on. Nikita Koloff might have joined forces with the Americans, but he didn't do

so with the Kremlin's consent, or even with his Uncle Ivan's blessing. There's a war going on, all right. And it pits Koloff and Rhodes on one side against Ivan Koloff, Krusher Khrushchev, and The Four Horsemen on the other.

For now, however, let's concern ourselves with one-half of the story, the half that has Nikita Koloff and Dusty Rhodes not only on the same side of the ring, but on the same side of the Iron Curtain. Consider this shocking statement: "Nikita Koloff, he's my friend, he proved himself, and now I'm standing by his side the way he stood by Magnum T.A. Because T.A., he hurt, he hurt bad, and Nikita Koloff, he showed what kind of man he is." The speaker: Dusty Rhodes.

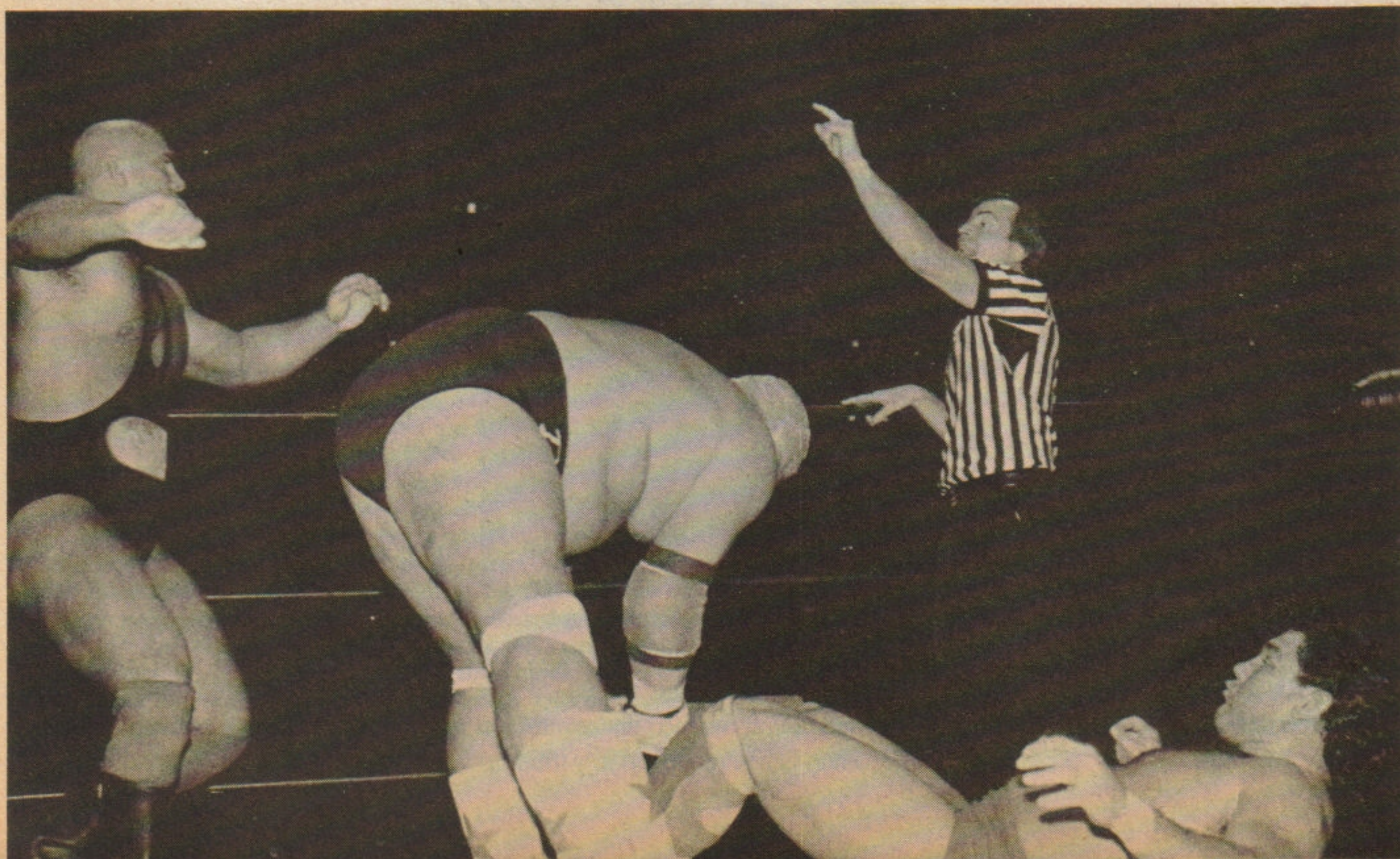
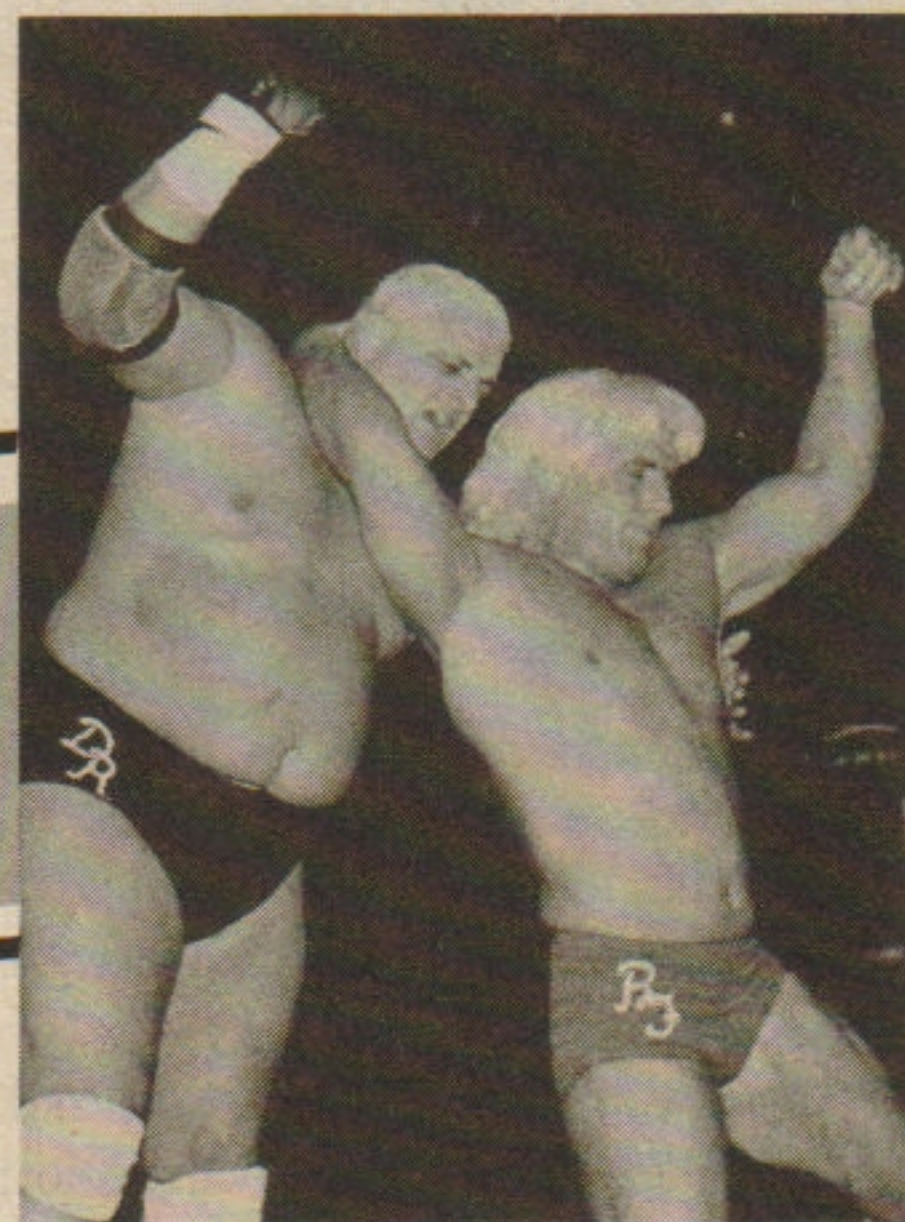
Or how about this: "I once think Dusty Rhodes bad man, but that is not right. Dusty Rhodes honorable man.

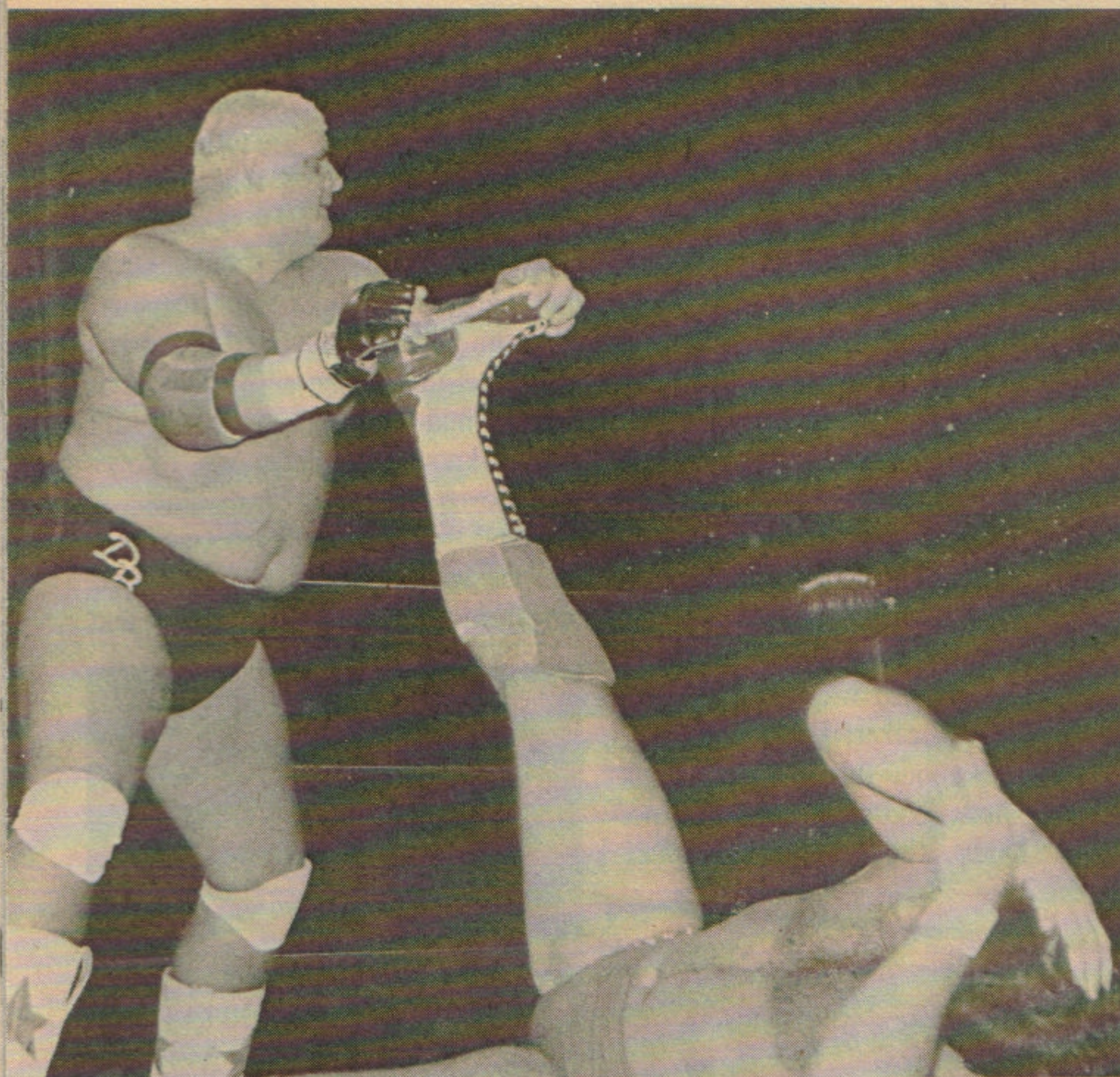
He show true courage. He stand by his friend, even when hurt, and allow me to fight battle for Magnum T.A. Kremlin say that Dusty Rhodes no good. This not true." The speaker: Nikita Koloff.

By now, everybody should know how Dusty and Nikita came together. Magnum T.A. was involved in a terrible, career-threatening automobile accident in mid-October and doctors still do not know whether he will recover full movement in his extremities. A few days later, Nikita Koloff came into the ring with Dusty Rhodes and saved him from an attack by J.J. Dillon and

SUMMIT!

Flair snapmares Dusty (right). Tommy Young tells Nikita to get out of the ring as Dusty starts applying the figure-four leglock on Tully Blanchard, Flair's fellow Horseman (below).





Ole Anderson. Afterward, Nikita expressed his feelings for Magnum T.A. and declared that he would wrestle "for" Magnum.

In response, the Soviet Union took away Nikita's citizenship. Ivan Koloff disowned his nephew and vowed revenge. The entire rulebreaking colony in the World Championship area expressed its outrage at this supposed traitor. Meanwhile, Nikita Koloff ignored it all and followed his heart. And his heart said that if he was going to wrestle for Magnum T.A., he was going to have to wrestle with Dusty Rhodes.

Together, they've been an awesome combination. "I've never seen Nikita wrestle better and Dusty has picked up on the momentum," says Rick Morton of The Rock 'n' Roll Express. "It isn't like Nikita's wrestling *for* two men. He's wrestling *like* two men. Fearful, absolutely fearful!" In most of their matches, Dusty and Nikita have taken on the imposing combination of Ric Flair and Tully Blanchard. The Superpowers have won almost all of these meetings.

The superpower pairing of Dusty and Nikita has had several confrontations with Flair and Blanchard, who has his leg twisted by Dusty (above). Tully readies a kneelift for Nikita (below).



"This is one of the most disgusting tag teams I've ever seen," says an obviously bitter Blanchard. "You've got this overblown Russian traitor on one side and a fat, washed-up coward on the other. They're doing it with mir-

rors, but their luck is bound to wear out. Nikita and Rhodes are doomed for disaster, especially when The Four Horsemen get their hands on them."

To Nikita Koloff, however, disaster does not mean The Four Horsemen. It means that inevitable day, somewhere down the line, when he and Dusty look across the ring and see Ivan Koloff and Krusher Khrushchev on the other side. On that day, Nikita's loyalty to Magnum T.A. and Dusty Rhodes will be put to the ultimate test.

"There is no question," shouts a perturbed Nikita. "I have made my decision. I have seen how my Uncle and Soviet Union really is. I say to be loyal to Magnum T.A., and that is how it must be. If I must wrestle my Uncle and Khrushchev, that is how it must be. I will wrestle them like any other opponent."

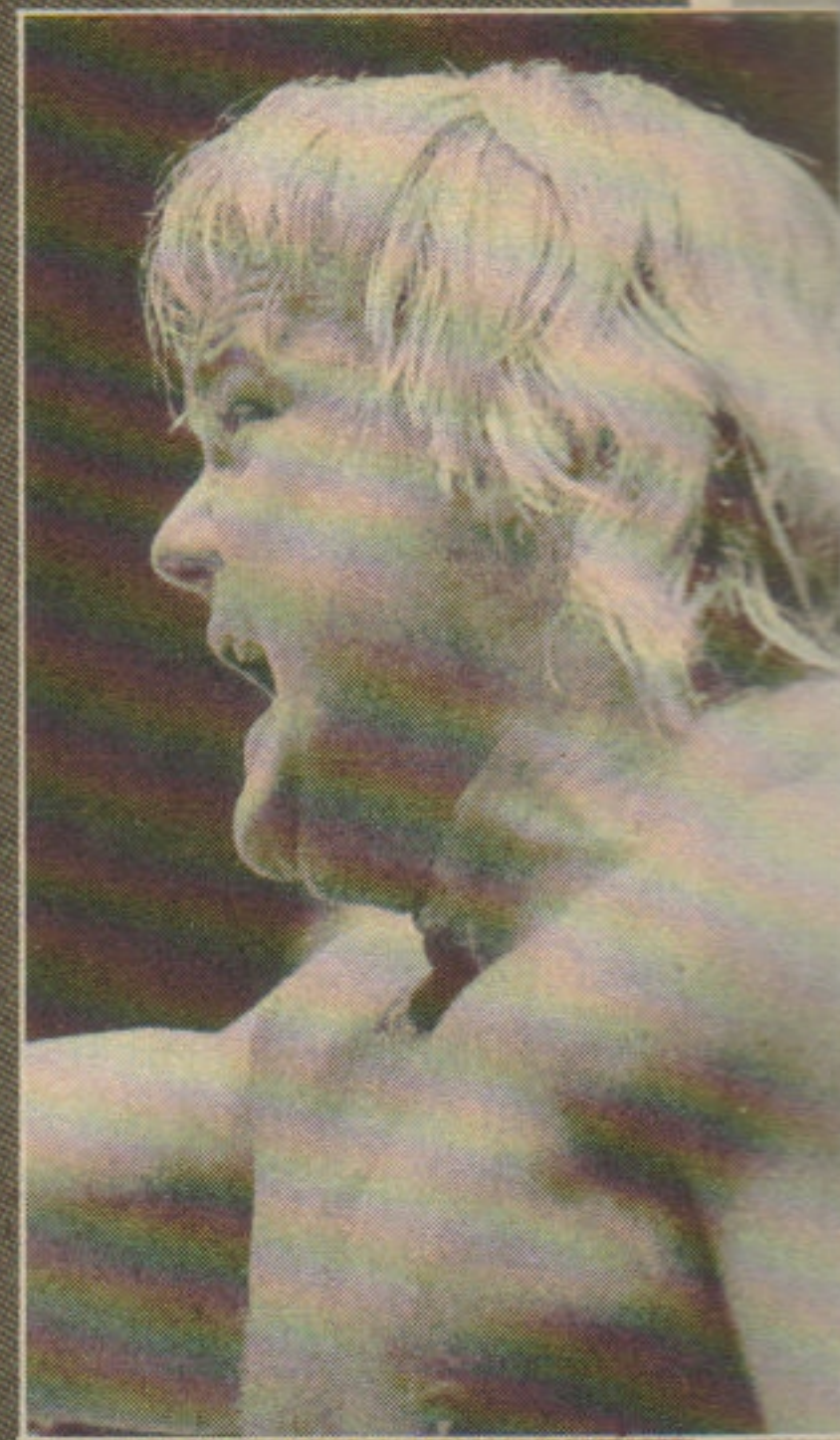
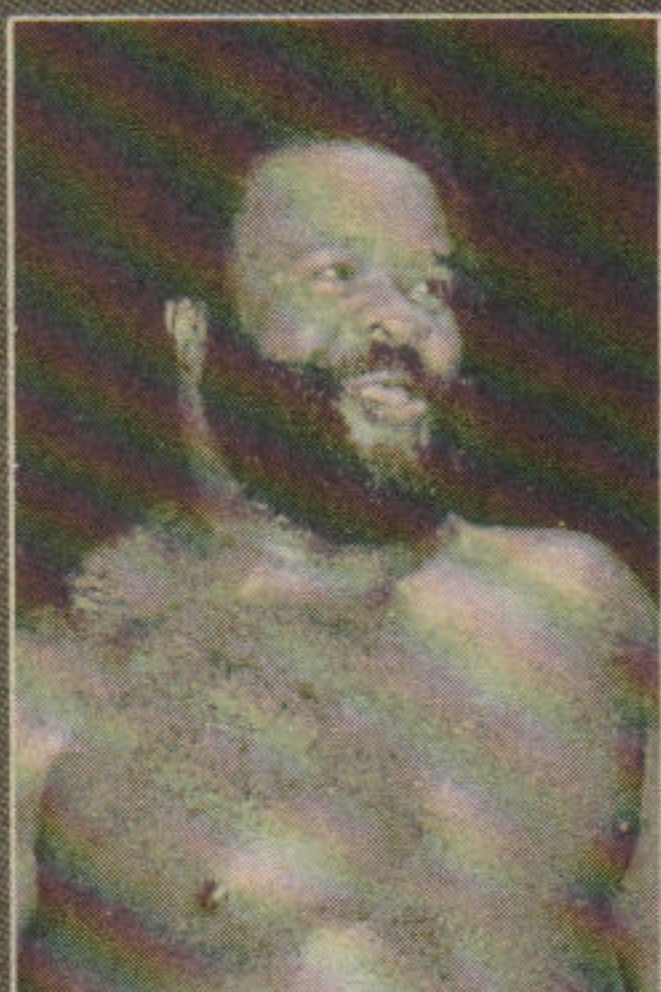
But some wrestlers have other thoughts. "If Ivan and Khrushchev were double-teaming Dusty, could Nikita really break in and hit his uncle?" asks Brad Armstrong. "I seriously doubt it, and that's why I still don't trust Nikita. I just couldn't see him harming his own flesh and blood, not for Magnum T.A." Robert Gibson agrees. "I couldn't hit my own uncle," he says. "I don't see how Nikita could, either."

In any event, the fans are delighted by the pairing of Dusty and Nikita. "It's the greatest tag team of all time," said ringside fan Chrissy Donovan after watching Nikita and Rhodes beat Flair and Blanchard at The Charlotte Coliseum. "I always hated Nikita, but now I love him, and Dusty's always been my favorite. They're unbeatable. I think I like them even more than The Rock 'n' Roll Express."

That's high praise coming from a young, female fan in North Carolina, a state where the Rock 'n' Rolls are king. Yet it's typical of the kind of response The Superpowers have gotten throughout the country. This is a pairing that shocked the nation and then took it by storm.

Dusty Rhodes and Nikita Koloff. As unlikely as hot dogs and caviar. Maybe there is hope for the world. □

The Fans Demand:



Many wrestlers on the WWF roster have overstayed their welcome and would be better off if they left, say fans polled by *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*. (Clockwise from left) Big John Studd, Junkyard Dog, Nikolai Volkoff and Iron Sheik, and Greg Valentine head the list.

IT'S TIME FOR A WWF HOUSECLEANING!

You can see it in their faces. You can tell by the increasing numbers of empty seats in the arenas. All you really have to do is ask them; they'll tell you. The fans are becoming disenchanted with the WWF, and they want a change—now!

ABOUT A MONTH before we went to press with this issue of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*, we sent people to dozens of WWF arenas across the country armed with questionnaires. We wanted to know whether the WWF was doing a good job or a bad job in promoting its wrestlers. And we wanted the fans to tell us.

A lot of people say that we at *PWI* are hard on the WWF. But consider: When a federation strives to expand its horizons around the world, when it en-

gages in very aggressive marketing and talent acquisition tactics, when it manages to assemble the largest pool of talent the sport has ever seen—well, that federation will undergo more scrutiny than any other. More scrutiny means *more* criticism, though not necessarily harsher criticism.

Nevertheless, our questionnaire was designed to allow the fans, and not the editors of *PWI*, the chance to voice a collective opinion. We encouraged additional comments over and above the

specific answers we sought. The key questions and significant results of the questionnaire were as follows:

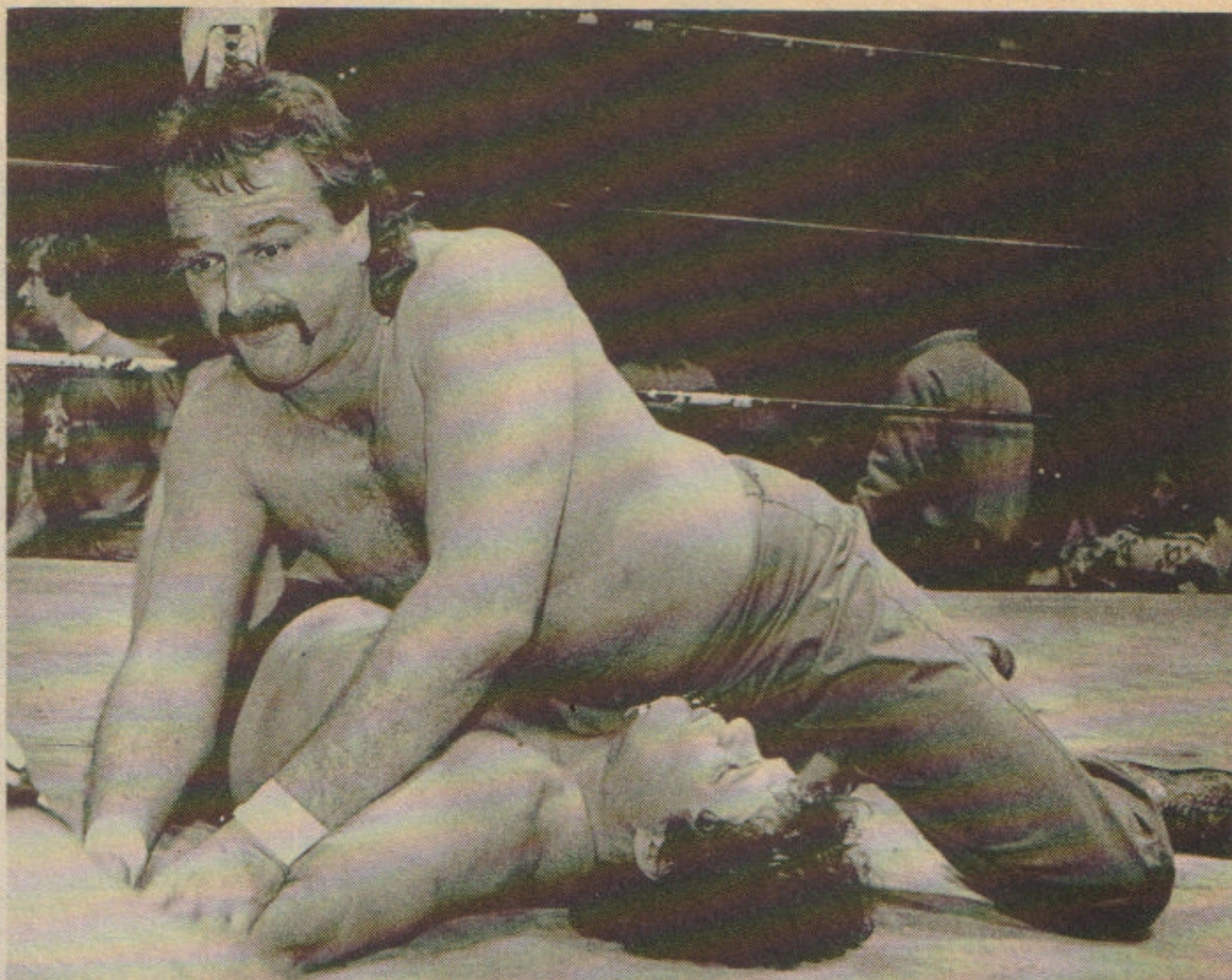
Do you think the WWF does a good or bad job in promoting its wrestlers?

The fans declared, by an overwhelming majority of nearly two to one, that the WWF does a bad job in promoting its wrestlers. Fully 73 percent of the fans we polled felt this way. A typical comment for the majority was made by Roger Thursby of Philadelphia.

"The WWF has one of the largest talent pools in the world, if not the largest. But the problem is that all you ever see are squash matches. Not only on television, but in the arenas. Squash match after squash match. And when there is a good match, odds are it's one of the two or three feud-type matches that I've seen dozens of times. You know: Santana vs. Savage, or Hogan vs. Orndorff, or Roberts vs. Steamboat. Beyond those few good contests, the WWF matchmaking capabilities are virtually nil."

Do you think the WWF has gotten better or worse in the past year?

Surprisingly, a slim majority (52 percent) of the fans felt that it has gotten better. "You've got to give the WWF credit," Stacy Brandeis



Jake "The Snake" Roberts—pinning Dick Slater—made a smart move when he joined the WWF. Conversely, Slater should never have come over to the McMahon fold, in the opinion of the majority of fans questioned.



Jesse Ventura gets covered with the cake at Uncle Elmer's wedding reception on *Saturday Night's Main Event*. Many fans are glad the WWF has cut down on such silliness and is concentrating more on pure wrestling.

of New York pointed out. "Time was when the WWF meant pie fights and hillbilly weddings, but I think that unflattering gloss is gone from the WWF now, and for that I'm glad."

Do you think the wrestlers recently joining the WWF are, for the most part, making a good career move or a bad career move?

In reply to this question, nearly 40 percent of the respondents de-

cided simply to *not* answer it, instead offering comments rather than a "good move" or "bad move" answer. Of those who did reply, opinions were split virtually even. But it was those who *did not* answer the question whose comments were most significant.

Most people felt that it was a question where specific case mattered. A common example was Jake Roberts. Many felt he made a good move coming to the

WWF. But there was plenty of agreement as to examples of bad moves: Dick Slater, Harley Race, Billy Jack Haynes, Dino Bravo, and Steve Regal were all commonly cited as men who should never have entered the federation.

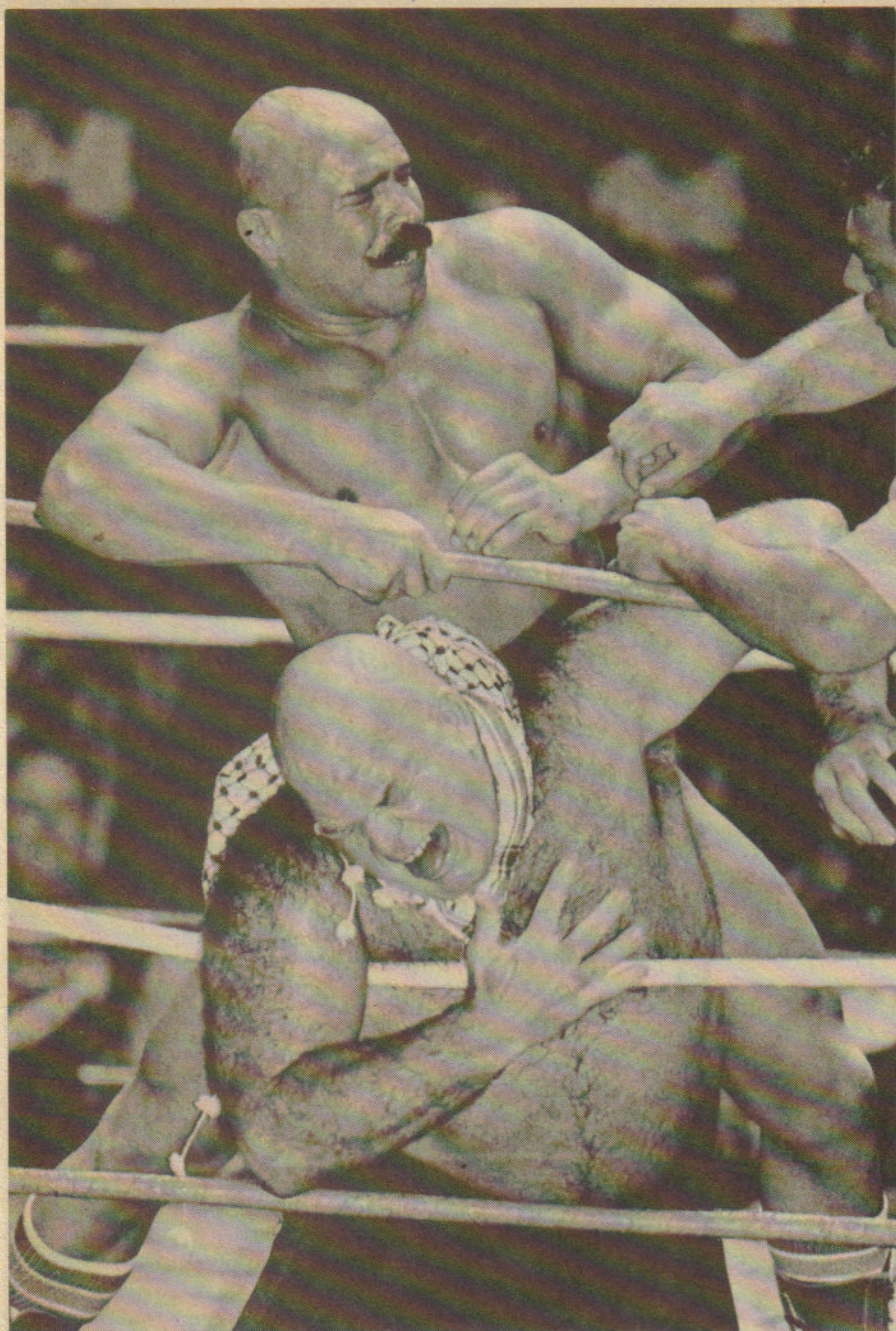
Do you feel wrestlers in the WWF receive equal opportunity for title matches?

An overwhelming "no" characterized the answer to this question, as 82 percent of the fans agreed that wrestlers do not get equal shakes in the WWF.

"Seems to me that if you have a doll made of yourself by the WWF," wrote Jim Carey of Boston, "then you're in, as far as the WWF brass are concerned. No doll, no consideration, no top matches on *Saturday Night's Main Event*, no title matches."

Do you think anyone should leave the WWF? Why?

Surprisingly, many very established WWF stars were frequently mentioned in answers to this question. Common suggestions included Junkyard Dog, Hercules Hernandez, Lanny Poffo, Steve Regal, Greg Valentine, Butch



The Iron Sheik chokes George "The Animal" Steele with his kaffiyeh headdress. The Sheik, who preceded Hulk Hogan as WWF World champion, is one of many wrestlers whose talents are obscured in the overcrowded federation.

Reed, Harley Race, Rick Martel, Iron Sheik, and Billy Jack Haynes.

"There are so many stars in the WWF who are buried by the fact that there are so many stars in the WWF," wrote Billy Bennett of St. Louis. "A guy like Greg Valentine or Butch Reed could rule the WWF if given half a chance. Except they don't get half a chance. I'd love to see them move to the NWA, where they would have a chance to wrestle. They wouldn't be buried among

all the names, and they'd finally be involved in some decent matches."

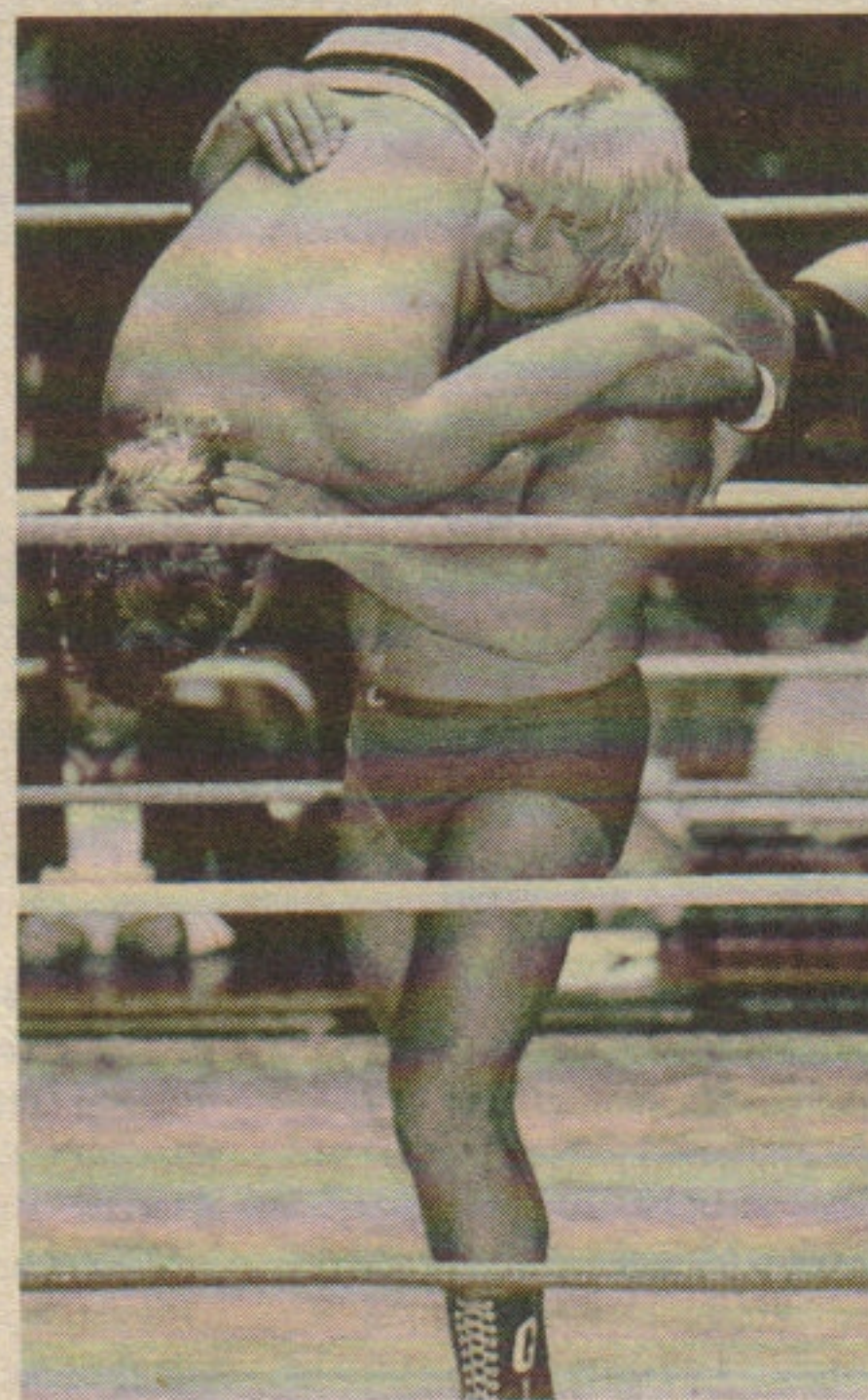
If you were in charge of the WWF, what changes would you make in order to improve the federation?

"Seems like a housecleaning is what's needed to make the WWF exciting again," wrote Jim Reed of Dallas. "Get rid of the lousy matchmakers, get rid of the dead weight in the ring, get rid of wrestlers like Junkyard Dog and Ka-

mala and Bundy and Studd, men who have worn out their welcome and are getting boring to watch, get rid of all the mismatches on television, get rid of half of the announcers who don't know what they're talking about. See, the problem with the WWF is that there's just too much of everything. Too many wrestlers, too many announcers, too many bad matches. The only thing there aren't enough of are good matches."

Reed's sentiments were echoed by hundreds of fans who responded to our questionnaire. Many fans felt that radical changes—a "housecleaning" as Reed said—were necessary in the WWF in order to raise the level of excitement in the federation.

"They've got all the tools and materials," said Janice Bligh of



Greg Valentine sets up Jim Brunzell for a shoulderbreaker. Several fans believe Valentine could once again be a star in the NWA.

Baltimore. "There's no reason that they should be as boring and ridiculous as they are. It's time for them to make some pretty heavy changes as soon as possible. The sooner the changes are made, the better the chances are that things will improve." □

Scouting Report

A NO-HOLDS-BARRED LOOK AT WRESTLING'S TOP STARS

In this magazine version of the TV counterpart seen on SuperStation WTBS, *Pro Wrestling Illustrated Scouting Reports* will examine the relative strengths and weaknesses of wrestling's top stars. There will be no punches pulled as the sport's athletes undergo the harshest scrutiny anywhere in the wrestling world



KAREEM MUHAMMAD

HOME TOWN: Africa
HEIGHT: 6'4"
WEIGHT: 297
YEARS AS PRO: 13
RATING: No. 2 in Florida

STRENGTHS:

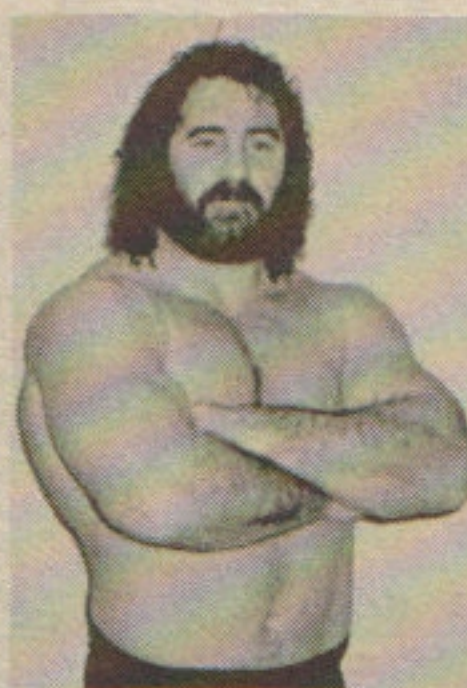
- Powerslam. Probably Muhammad's only major offensive weapon and a most effective one. Can leave an opponent helpless.
- Knows his limits. Muhammad realizes he isn't a solid technical wrestler and doesn't try to do what he can't.
- Intimidation. A very imposing figure, Muhammad can strike fear in the heart of an unwary opponent.

WEAKNESSES:

- Stamina. Is rarely effective past five minutes and easily sapped of his strength in longer matches.
- Overweight. Very overweight. Muhammad is in awful physical condition, severely hampering him in the ring.
- Stylistic limitations. Unvaried array of skills lead to a predictable offense. Has trouble with good scientific wrestlers.

OTHER COMMENTS: Beat Barry Windham for Florida title November 25, 1986 . . . Teams with Ed Gantner under management of Sir Oliver Humperdink to form The Shock Troops . . . Formerly known as Ray Candy but changed his name when he became a Muslim.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: Currently involved in a feud with Southern champion Lex Luger, though doesn't seem to be a match for the young muscleman. Muhammad should dedicate himself to defending the Florida title and possibly winning a tag team belt.



HERCULES HERNANDEZ

HOME TOWN: Tampa, FL
HEIGHT: 6'2"
WEIGHT: 255
YEARS AS PRO: 7
RATING: No. 5 in WWF

STRENGTHS:

- Herculean strength. Reportedly can bench press over 500 pounds and uses this to best advantage.
- Ring smarts. Hernandez is more intelligent than he looks and knows how to set up opponents up for his power moves.
- Forearm smash. Outstanding power and tremendous arm development make this a lethal weapon.

WEAKNESSES:

- Overconfident. Hernandez is absolutely in love with himself and often struts around the ring when his opponent is ready to be beaten.
- Bad kickout. Lacks the proper timing and leverage to get out of certain pin situations.
- Inconsistent weight. Tends to put on pounds between title matches; trains in spurts instead of steadily.

OTHER COMMENTS: Once a member of the House of Humperdink along with Jim Neidhart . . . Held both the Southern and Florida titles when he skipped the Florida area in mid-1985 and came to the WWF . . . Teamed with Ted DiBiase to beat The Rock 'n' Roll Express for the Mid-South tag titles in 1984.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: Hernandez is coming off a series of failed title shots at Hulk Hogan and now must regroup. The question: Now that he has lost to Hogan, will he remain in training and stay in shape? The answer is key to his fortunes for the coming year.



SAM HOUSTON

HOME TOWN: Waco, TX

HEIGHT: 6'2"

WEIGHT: 222 pounds

YEARS AS PRO: 4

RATING: No. 5 in NWA

STRENGTHS:

- Extremely aggressive. Never backs down and always wrestles in forward gear, putting his opponents at a disadvantage.
- Awkward style. Surprisingly, Houston puts this to his advantage because he is very difficult to defend against.
- Bulldog headlock. An outstanding maneuver that has been known to quickly defeat an opponent.

WEAKNESSES:

- Overzealous. Often gets overpowered by men he shouldn't be wrestling at this early point in his career.
- Physique. Is not a big man to begin with, and has not reached peak physical maturity.
- Propensity for bleeding. Development of scar tissue has caused skin to lose elasticity. This could severely hinder his progress.

OTHER COMMENTS: Won the Central States title in St. Louis in mid-November when he defeated Bill Dundee in the final round of a tournament . . . Has been compared to Barry Windham because of their similar physical appearances . . . Second runner-up for "Most Improved Wrestler" of 1986.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: Houston just keeps getting better. As he gains experience, his chances of becoming a major star also improve. By the end of the year, he could be a major challenger for Ric Flair's NWA World title.



FABULOUS MOOLAH

HOME TOWN: Columbia, SC

HEIGHT: 5'5"

WEIGHT: 138

YEARS AS PRO: 42

RATING: No. 4 in Women's

STRENGTHS:

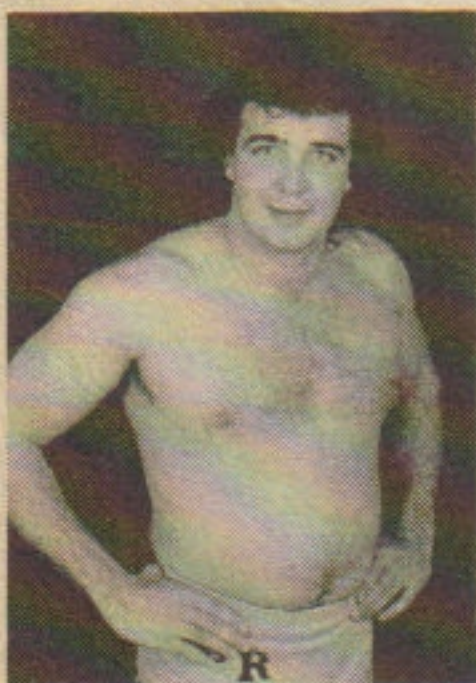
- Experience. Moolah has more experience than the rest of the top 10 women combined, and more than any active male wrestler.
- Controls officials. Perhaps the best, male or female, at intimidating referees to her advantage.
- Vicious. Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned . . . or Moolah. Merciless, and seems to love hurting opponents.

WEAKNESSES:

- Too old. Moolah is certainly not as agile as she used to be. The years have caught up to this legendary grappler.
- Ducks worthy challengers. Wrestles infrequently and usually against lesser opponents. Refused to give Wendi Richter a rematch.
- Poor training. Her regimen is virtually non-existent, and she is proud of that fact.

OTHER COMMENTS: Disguised herself as Spider Lady to regain the WWF Women's championship from Wendi Richter on November 25, 1985 . . . Held the title from 1956 to 1984 . . . As Slave Girl Moolah, was the first valet in history . . . Turned pro at age 16 in South Africa.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: The competition for the World Women's title is heating up. Moolah will hold her title for as long as she can avoid such wrestlers as Richter, Misty Blue Simmes, and Sherri Martel.



JOHNNY RICH

HOME TOWN: Hendersonville, TN

HEIGHT: 6'

WEIGHT: 235

YEARS AS PRO: 11

RATING: Unrated (No. 7 in AWA last month)

STRENGTHS:

- Speed. Rich's lightning quickness often catches opponents off-guard. His ring agility has impressed many veterans.
- Tommy Rich. Johnny learned the basics of his style from his cousin, a former NWA champion.
- Stamina. Can extend an opponent a long way. Wears down rivals while rarely getting tired himself.

WEAKNESSES:

- Leg injuries. Recently underwent surgery for a leg injury suffered in a battle royal. This could severely slow his progress.
- Small. In a sport where the big man rules, Rich's speed and ability are often not enough to overcome his size disadvantage.
- Limited experience. Seems to lack the confidence he needs to travel the country and pick up needed experience.

OTHER COMMENTS: Has wrestled in the Tennessee, Georgia, and Continental areas, and most recently in the AWA . . . Has never achieved the superstar status of his cousin.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: Coming off major leg surgery, Rich's main goal in 1987 will be rehabilitation and regaining his strength. At best, Rich is a long way from a major title and with this in his way, the task is even more difficult.



WAHOO McDANIEL

HOME TOWN: Midland, Texas

HEIGHT: 5'11"

WEIGHT: 260

YEARS AS PRO: 26

RATING: No. 10 in World Championship

STRENGTHS:

- Tomahawk chop. At its worst, this painful blow takes the air out of an opponent. At its best, it can break his ribs.
- Athletic ability. Wahoo is a fine all-around athlete and played for many AFL and NFL teams.
- Indian strap match. McDaniel is the master of this match and has proven unbeatable. He has never lost one.

WEAKNESSES:

- Age. The years have severely sapped Wahoo of his speed and agility. He doesn't move around the ring like he used to.
- A brawler. Wahoo uses few scientific skills; this hurts him when he faces an opponent who refuses to brawl.
- Violent temper. Often gets so mad that he loses control and discards his game plan.

OTHER COMMENTS: One of the most popular wrestlers in history . . . A five-time U.S. champion . . . Two-time NWA World tag team champion with Mark Youngblood . . . Has held many regional titles but never a world singles championship.

OUTLOOK FOR '87: Wahoo's best years are behind him, but he's still a formidable wrestler. But with the National title gone (it was combined with the U.S. championship), his chances of winning a major belt in 1987 are slimmer than in '86.

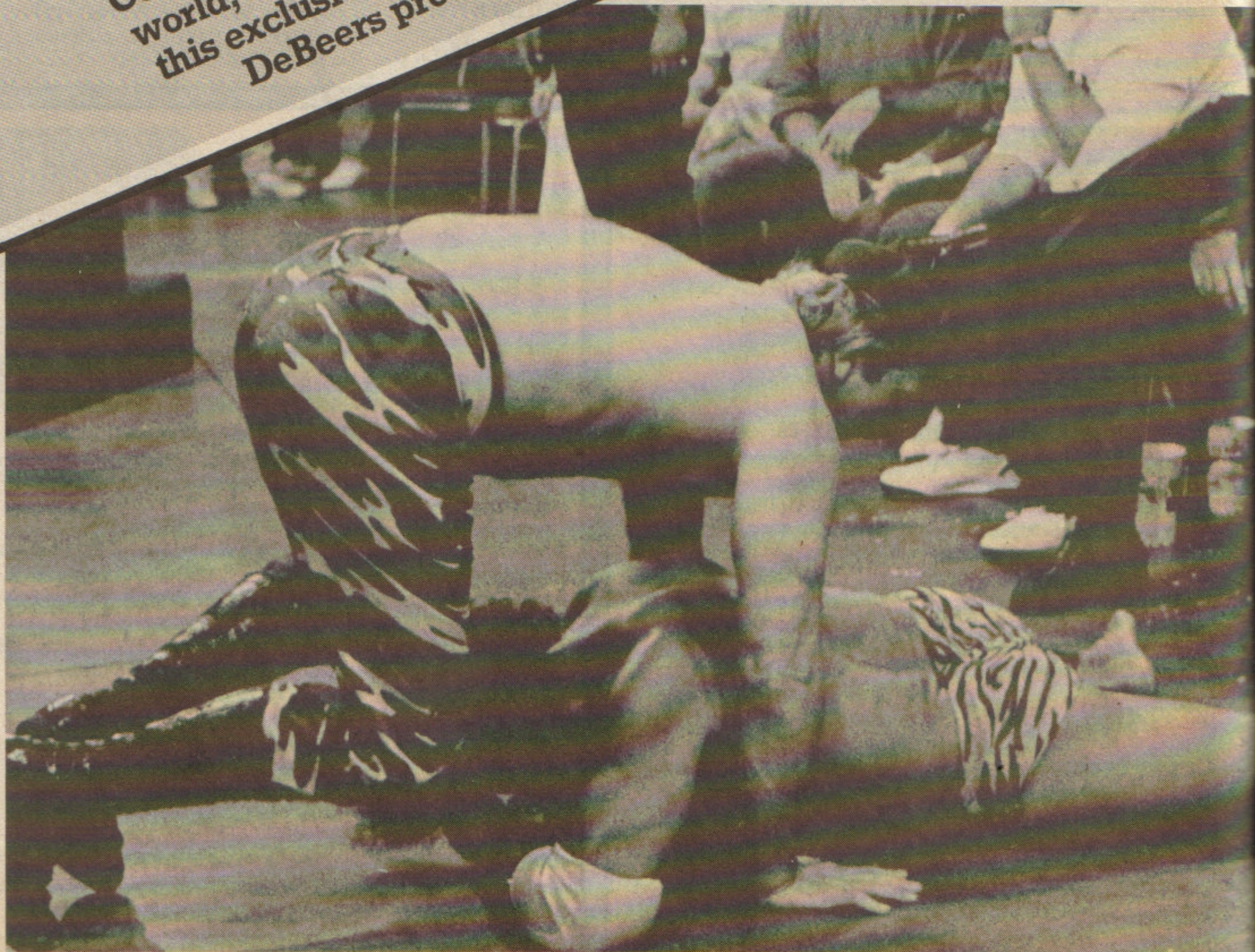
**COL.
DeBEERS'
STORY:**

"I MEANT TO KILL JIMMY SNUKA!"

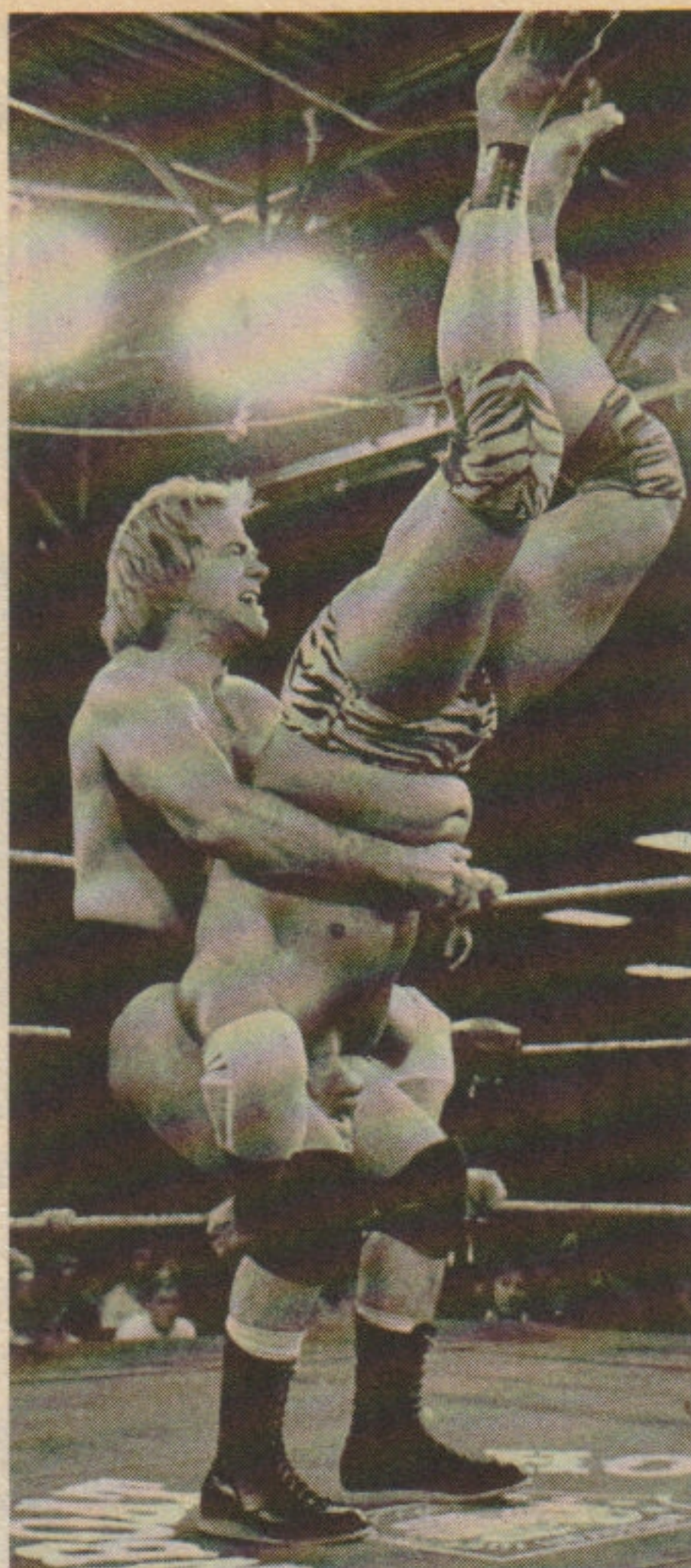
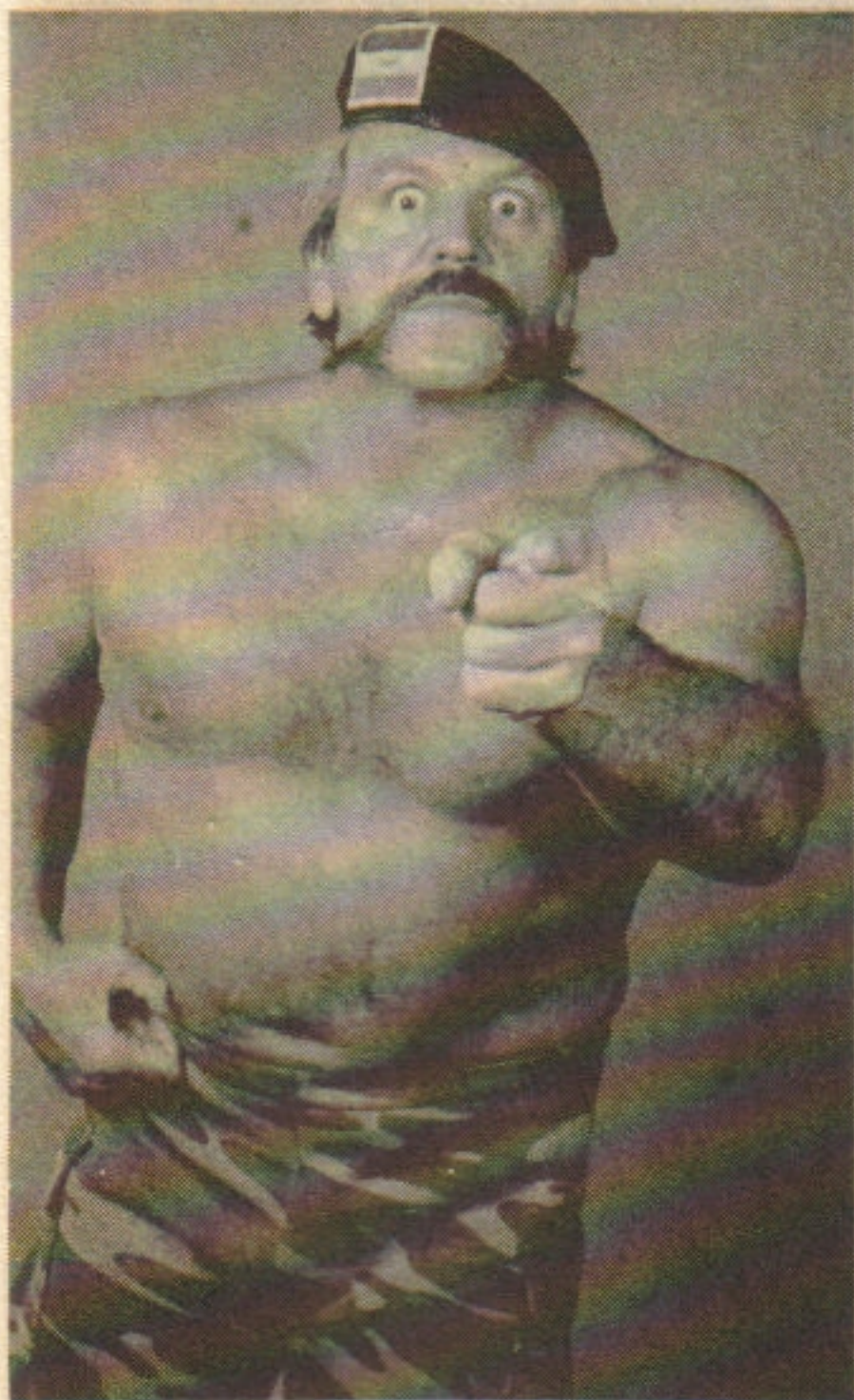
By Col. DeBeers

Col. DeBeers' attack on Jimmy Snuka shocked the wrestling world, but it left the South African menace disappointed. In this exclusive article written for Pro Wrestling Illustrated, DeBeers proclaims that he did not go far enough!

Photos by Frank Valeri



In this exclusive story for *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*, Col. DeBeers (below) tells how he meant to kill Jimmy Snuka. He slams the Fijian down to the concrete with a face-first piledriver (bottom), after he interfered in a match between Snuka and Larry Zbyszko, who earlier gave Snuka a piledriver in the ring (right).



[Editor's note: The following story is unedited and represents the views of the author only.]

IT'S BY NO fault of mine that Jimmy Snuka is still alive. I have dreams about the blood and puss seeping out of his skull on that night in Las Vegas, and every time I wake up laughing with delight until I realize that the job was only half done. Snuka lied there breathing and I walked away in disgust because I'm the kind of man who finishes what he starts and I meant to kill Jimmy Snuka.

1949, ah, that was a great time for my homeland [South Africa]. It was then that the Nationalist Afrikaner party took control and Prime Minister Strijdom spoke the words that still ring in my ear: "Either the white man dominates or the black man takes over." That is the way it is not only in my country, but in the entire world. It is through the selective blindness of the Ameri-

can people that they do not realize what is going on in their own country.

Negroes are the inferior race and they feed off of the accomplishments of the white man. I am disgusted when I walk down the street in Chicago and see Negro beggars trying to pawn off of the white man, then complaining because they weren't given a fair shake. Blacks are the same, no matter where you go. They want everything handed to them on a silver platter because they don't have the ability to get anywhere on their own.

They are like domestic house pets, dogs who must be fed by their owners and have their feces cleaned up after because they do not have the tools to make it in a civilized world. Blacks must be kept on leashes and trained to be subservient, because if let loose, they will bite and try to take over with their inferiority, their ways spoiling the entire human race.

That is why Jimmy Snuka must die. He is a Polynesian, but he represents all that is wrong with the Negro. Snuka is lazy. He takes months off from work and then expects to come back and have everything his way, but he cannot have it. In my country, a thing like Snuka would be chained to a fence and submitted to a public flogging. He is neither man nor beast.

I planned my attack on Snuka. I sat up for days figuring out ways to make sure that the job would be completed. I spoke on the telephone with Larry Zbyszko, a man who has done his share to prove the superiority of the proud people, and we discussed our strategy.

I knew that Snuka was a subhuman with inferior intelligence and would fall for my cleverly devised plan. And he fell right into my trap. When he climbed to the top rope, I had to fight hard to control my excitement, because I knew



Snuka is a shockingly bloody sight after DeBeers is finished with him (above). As the medics carefully put The Superfly on a stretcher, Curt Hennig offers some words of encouragement to his stricken friend (below). DeBeers, who supports the racist policies of South Africa, is angry because Snuka is returning to action in the AWA.

that I had him, and soon, within minutes, he would be lying motionless on the ground.

That is how it should have been, but my calculations did not account for the unusual hardness of Snuka's cranium. If I had realized this, I would have adjusted the angle of my piledriver and you'd be doing post-mortems to Snuka right now, praying for his damned soul and demanding the banishment of myself, the only person in wrestling who knows how things must be. Fools!

But things did not turn out how they should and that is unfortunate, especially for Snuka. He must now suffer in a hospital bed and delude himself into thinking that he will get revenge, when the pain has only just begun. I have changed my plan. I will now sap him of his strength and destroy his mind, inflict pain onto him little by little until he can no longer stand the agony, and then I will deal the final blow.

I must now share with you a telegram I received from a representative of the South Afri-



can government the day after I destroyed the scum. [Editor's note: When asked to, DeBeers would not produce the telegram]. It read: *Our missionary Col. DeBeers: We commend you for your actions against the Polynesian wrestler and hereby authorize you to carry out further plans against all Negro and race-related wrestlers in the United States. It is unfortunate that you were not able to put an end to Mr. Snuka, but we are sure that before long he will no longer be a problem. Congratulations and our deepest thanks.*"

It is purely by design that I am wrestling in the AWA, a federation that does not employ a single Negro wrestler. This is proper management on the part of President Stanley Blackburn and I am very much in favor of it. A Negro wrestler would destroy the integrity of this organization and lower the quality of competition.

But there is still this evil cancer in the AWA. Snuka claims he will return—although I would recommend against this—and I have finally rid wrestling of Scott Hall. It took some time for Hall to realize what he was up against, but I think he finally came to his senses and realized that he was embarrassing the white race as a whole. He could not look me in the eye and admit that I was right, so he ran away.

I do not care to carry on much longer with this dissertation. By now, it must be clear to all of you what my mission is and how I intend to carry it on. I represent the honor of the great South African nation and the agenda Prime Minister Strijdom laid out for us in 1949.

Some day, the United States will also realize what we have known for so long and will return to its proper state of legalized Negro slavery. Until then, I will continue in my mission to exterminate Snuka and the animals he represents. □



By overcoming tough challengers and devastating injuries, The Rock 'n' Roll Express have proved they are true champions, writes Beth Robinson.

a shattered nose by The Four Horsemen. Robert Gibson has suffered a severe back injury and three separated ribs, all by the Andersons. Morton and Gibson have come back from all those injuries, and are now both in top form once again.

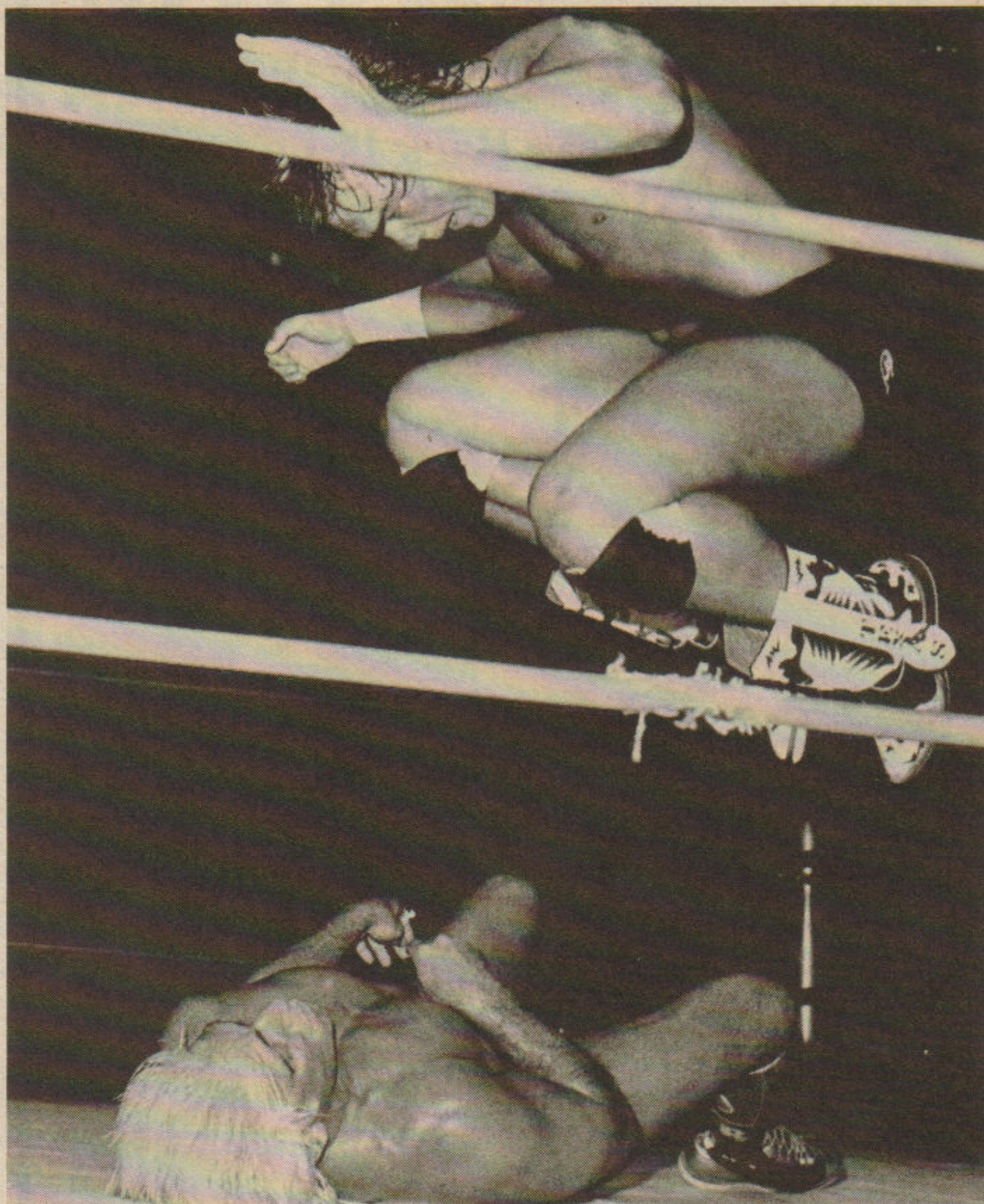
You have to admit that it was phenomenal that Robert Gibson was able to come back so quickly from the rib injury: two weeks. Many people thought he would be out for months. Granted, Robert had to wear a rib protector, but he no longer had to wear it only three weeks after his return match.

Aside from the fact that they are one of the best—if not *the* best—tag teams in the world, they are very remarkable athletes. Both Rick Morton and Robert Gibson have proven this time and time again. Like it or not, The Rock 'n' Roll Express are gonna be around for a long, long time!

BETH ROBINSON
Belle Center, OH □

KING'S COURT

(Continued from page 10)



Windham leaps off the second rope onto NWA World champion Ric Flair. Over the past four years, Windham has had his shots at Flair, but by moving to the World Championship area, his chances will increase.

like Koko B. Ware, who Volkoff would have destroyed only a few years ago. Iron Sheik has also suffered some humiliating defeats recently. Both wrestlers are clear cases of WWF burnout.

Even Windham's WWF champion tag team partner, Mike Rotundo, is languishing in his current tour of the WWF. Rotundo teamed with Danny Spivey in an obvious attempt to recapture his past glory, but that tag team will never attain the heights that Windham and Rotundo reached.

"I feel great," Windham said, "better than ever. I'm at the height of my career now. I learned a lot from my WWF days, and I got out before I had to pay too high a cost. My return to Florida cleared my head and made me a better wrestler. Now I'm ready for Flair and the NWA title. It's all working out so well for me. I couldn't have planned it any better if I tried. From the first day I turned pro, my goal was to win the NWA World title. Now, I'm nearer to my goal than ever."

In algebra, we learned that the shortest distance between two points is a straight line. Barry Windham proves that in wrestling, sometimes the shortest distance between two points is a circle. □

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RINGSIDE

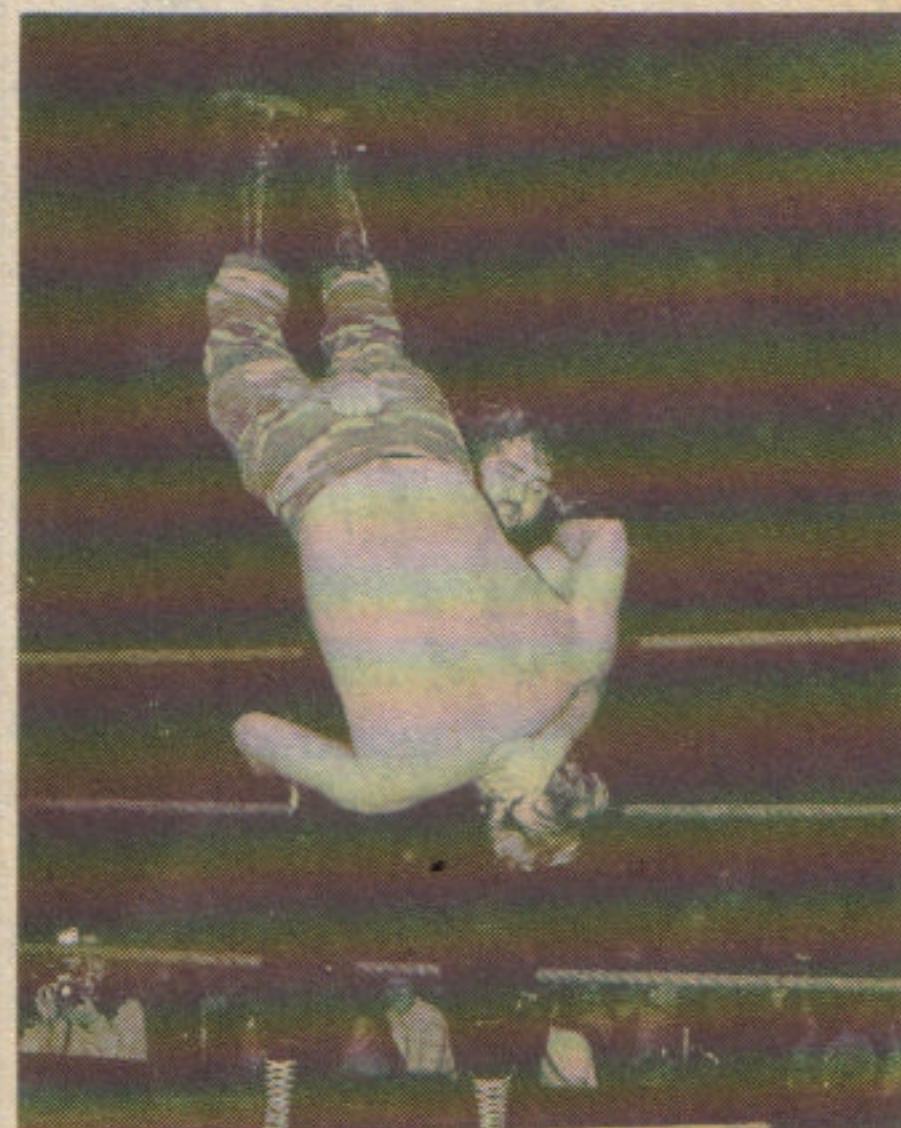
(Continued from page 8)

champion **One Man Gang** by disqualification when **Bad Leroy Brown** and **Bill Irwin** interfered on behalf of OMG.

Brian Adias' feud with his former friends, the Von Erichs, continued at the World Class' Thanksgiving show in Dallas' Reunion Arena. **Kevin Von Erich**, who had successfully defended his World Class title against **Black Bart** earlier on the card, came back to wrestle **Al Madril** in a lights out, anything goes, non-title match. Adias ran in and hit Kevin, and **Mike Von Erich** came to his brother's rescue. While referees **Rick Hazzard** and **Bronco Lubich** tried to chase Mike and Adias back to the dressing room, Madril took out a roll of coins, smashed Kevin, and scored the pin.

On that same show, **Fritz Von Erich's** iron claw was pitted against **Abdullah the Butcher's** python sleeper in a hold vs. hold contest. **Gary Hart**, Abdullah's manager, won the coin toss and The Butcher got to put Fritz in the sleeper. Von Erich broke the hold, but Abdullah grabbed him again and still couldn't put out Fritz. Finally, Fritz put the claw on Abdullah, forcing Hart to toss in the towel.

(Continued on page 54)



Jerry Blackwell slams Col. DeBeers during their steepladder match in which \$10,000 was at stake. Blackwell won the money, but DeBeers beat him up and stole the money.

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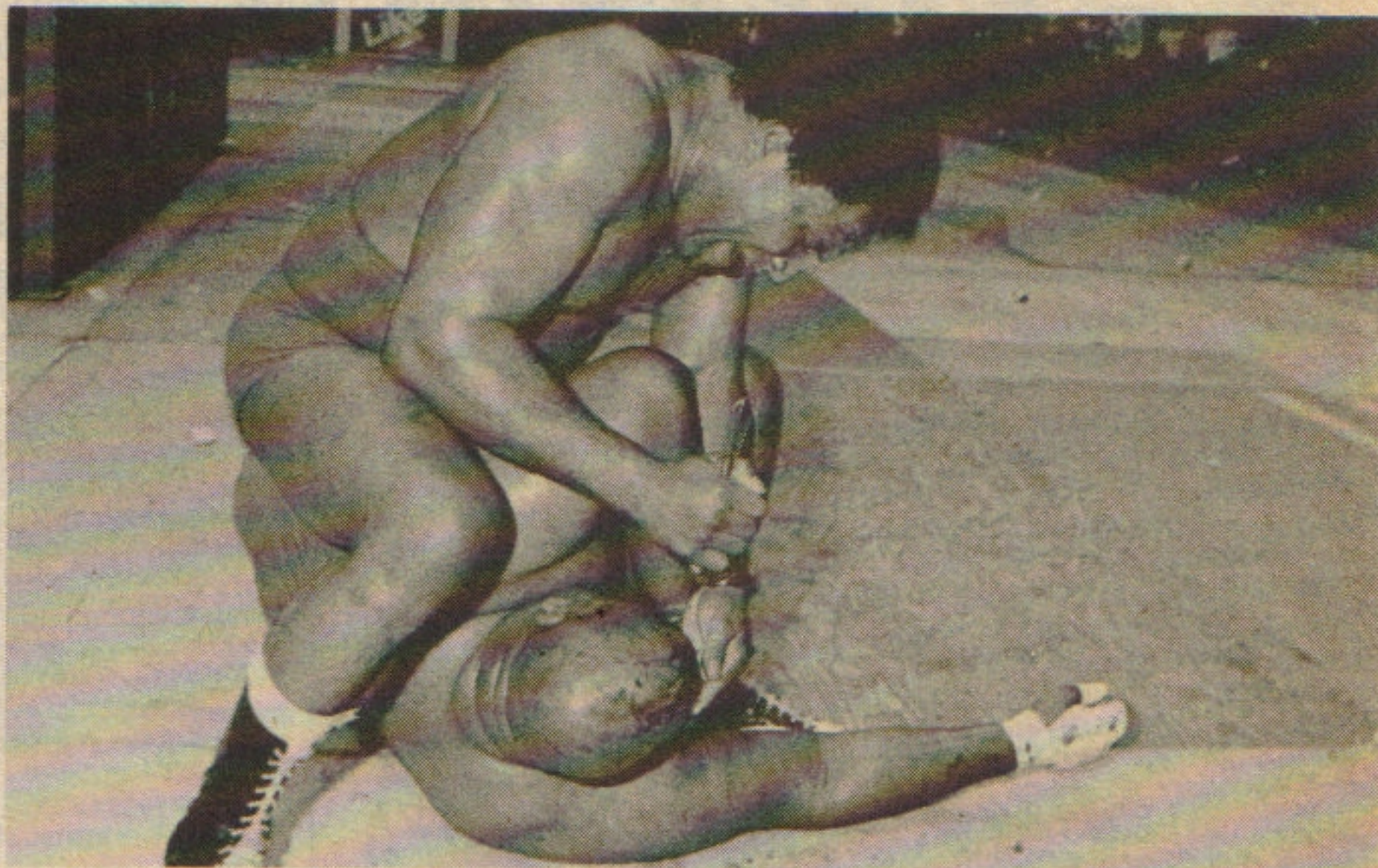
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RINGSIDE

(Continued from page 52)



Lately, it seems that Carlos Colon will do anything to hold on to his WWC title. He turns the tables on Abdullah the Butcher by using the Sudanese madman's fork to carve some revenge on his battle-scarred forehead.

At the St. Paul Civic Center, **Jerry Blackwell** met **Col. DeBeers** in a stepladder match with \$10,000 hanging from the arena lights. Blackwell climbed up and retrieved the money, but when he came down, was beaten up by DeBeers. The South African menace stole the money and disappeared. In a six-man tag team match, **The Midnight Rockers** and **Despina Montageus** defeated **Buddy Rose, Doug Somers, & Sherri Martel**. The finish was amazing: **Shawn Michaels** and **Marty Jannetty** picked up Despina and threw her on top of Martel for the pin!

Of course, there's news this month not related to the big Thanksgiving cards:

Magnum T.A. is making improvement. A Charlotte Hospital spokesman reports that T.A. is in fair condition with some movement in all of his extremities ... **Kareem Muhammad** won the Florida title from **Barry Windham** by using a foreign object for the pin. Windham, having already agreed to wrestle in the World Championship area, had hoped to be able to resign as champion before his departure. Apparently, his heart wasn't into this title defense ... **The Fabulous Ones** defeated **The Shepherders** for the Florida ver-

sion of the United States tag team title.

One Man Gang, Steve Williams, and Terry Taylor have all advanced to the next round of the \$50,000 **PWI/UWF Challenge Cup Tournament** ... **Adrian Adonis** has returned to the WWF. He and **Jimmy Hart** attacked **Roddy Piper** on an edition of "Piper's Pit" ... **Hulk Hogan** defeated **Paul Orndorff** in a bloody steel cage match at The Nassau Coliseum on Long Island. Hogan really seems in control right now ... **Bruno Sammartino** has agreed to come out of retirement because of his intense hatred for **Randy Savage**. "I have no desire to win the Intercontinental title," Bruno said. "All I want to do is take a large piece of that scum's hide."

Carlos Colon, one of the most popular wrestlers ever in Puerto Rico, has become increasingly violent since regaining his WWC title. During a recent match in San Juan, Colon turned the tables on **Abdullah the Butcher**. He used Abdullah's fork and ripped apart the Sudanese madman's forehead. Why this change? It's hard to say, but Colon appears intent on never relinquishing his belt.

That's all for now. See you at the matches!



This special feature is for all fans who want to know who won and who lost . . . and how. *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* will print eyewitness reports from correspondents who attend the matches. If you'd like to have your correspondent report printed in the world's largest-selling wrestling magazine, send it to: *Arena Report*; PWI, Box 48; Rockville Centre, NY 11571.

CHARLOTTE COLISEUM (Charlotte, NC): Nikita Koloff & Dusty Rhodes beat Ric Flair & Tully Blanchard by disqualification . . . Road Warrior Animal beat Arn Anderson . . . Manny Fernandez defeated Wahoo McDaniel . . . The Midnight Express & Big Bubba defeated The Rock 'n' Roll Express & Brad Armstrong . . . Rick Rude beat Hector Guerrero . . . Tim Horner defeated Bill Dundee . . . Don Kernodle beat Gary Royal.

—Ruth Hagan

CINCINNATI GARDENS (Cincinnati): Dusty Rhodes & Nikita Koloff beat Ric Flair & Tully Blanchard in a steel cage match . . . Road Warrior Animal defeated Ole Anderson in a steel cage . . . Manny Fernandez beat Wahoo McDaniel . . . The Rock 'n' Roll Express & Brad Armstrong defeated The Midnight Express & Big Bubba by disqualification . . . Rick Rude beat Hector Guerrero . . . Baron Von Raschke beat Gary Royal . . . Don Kernodle pinned Shaska Whatley . . . Ricky Lee Jones beat Superstar Bill Dundee.

—Brent Coppage

CIVIC CENTER (Philadelphia): Shaska Whatley and Baron Von Raschke battled to a draw . . . Jimmy Garvin pinned Tim Horner . . . Ivan Koloff & Krusher Khrushchev beat Hector Guerrero & Don Kernodle . . . Brad Armstrong beat Rick Rude by disqualification . . . Manny Fernandez pinned Wahoo McDaniel . . . Dusty Rhodes & Nikita Koloff won by disqualification over Ric Flair & Tully Blanchard . . . The Midnight Express & Big Bubba beat The Kansas Jayhawks & Ron Garvin . . . The Rock 'n' Roll Express beat Ole & Arn Anderson.

—Dan Pizzi

FORT WILLIAM GARDENS (Thunder Bay, Ontario): Gino Brito Jr. drew with Armand Rougeau . . . Suni War Cloud pinned Rocky DeLassera . . . Joe Lightfoot pinned Bob DeLassera . . . Gerry Morrow & Dan Kroffat pinned The Hollywood Blonds . . . Hercules Ayala pinned Ron Ritchie . . . Gino Brito Sr. & Tony Parisi defeated Sheik Ali & Rick Charland by disqualification . . . Jos LeDuc defeated Steve Strong by disqualification.

—Marc Butuk

FRANKLIN JUNIOR HIGH (Franklin, LA): Ted DiBiase & Terry Taylor defeated Michael Hayes & Buddy Roberts . . . The Missing Link & Iceman King Parsons won by disqualification over Eddie Gilbert & Sting . . . Bad Leroy Brown beat Gary Young . . . Joe Savoldi drew with Art Crews.

—Veto S. Graffeo

LE COLISEE (Victoriaville, Quebec): Jos LeDuc beat Sweet Daddy Siki by disqualification . . . Hercules Ayala defeated Ron Hutchison . . . David Shultz beat Neil Carr . . . Rocky & Bob DeLassera defeated Bob Crawford & Black Diamond . . . Joe Lightfoot & Suni War Cloud beat Harry Pembroke & Denis Cyr.

—John Barbera

LOS ANGELES SPORTS ARENA (Los Angeles): Jim Brunzell pinned Brutus Beefcake . . . The Tonga Kid beat Moondog Spot . . . The Dynamite Kid beat The Iron Sheik by disqualification . . . King Tonga beat Moondog Rex . . . Brett Hart pinned Brian Blair . . . Nikolai Volkoff beat Steve Gatorwolf . . . Jim Neidhart defeated Davey Boy Smith . . . King Kong Bundy pinned The Super Machine . . . The Iron Sheik & Nikolai Volkoff won a \$50,000 tag team battle royal.

—Junior Cabarlo

MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST COLISEUM (Gulfport, MS): Sting beat Ken Massey . . . Savannah Jack defeated Joe Savoldi . . . Iceman King Parsons & Chris Adams drew with Buddy Landell & Rick Steiner . . . The Missing Link & Dark Journey defeated Eddie Gilbert & Missy Hyatt . . . One Man Gang won by forfeit over Terry Gordy . . . The One Man Gang beat Chris Adams . . . Michael Hayes beat Ted DiBiase in a country whipping showdown.

—Alfie Sumrall

MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM (Kansas City, MO): Randy Savage and Jake Roberts battled to a double-disqualification . . . Junkyard Dog defeated Harley Race by disqualification . . . Tito Santana pinned Jimmy Jack Funk . . . Magnificent Muraco beat Hillbilly Jim . . . Cpl. Kirch-



ner & Raymond Rougeau defeated The Iron Sheik & Nikolai Volkoff ... The Honky Tonk Man pinned Tommy Sharp.

—Patrick Byler

NORTHWEST JUNIOR COLLEGE (Phil Campbell, AL): Adrian Street pinned Rip Rogers for the Southeastern title ... Tom Pritchard pinned Roy Lee Welch for the Southeast U.S. junior title ... The Nightmares defeated Chris Colt & Sheik Abdullah ... Wendell Cooley pinned The Dirty White Boy ... The Bullet & Tennessee Studd pinned The New Guinea Headhunters.

—Jennifer Lucas

OAKLAND COLISEUM (Oakland, CA): Randy Savage pinned Rick Steamboat ... Raymond Rougeau & Tito Santana beat The Iron Sheik & Nikolai Volkoff ... Junkyard Dog pinned Jake Roberts ... George Steele beat Magnificent Muraco by disqualification ... Billy Jack Haynes beat Kamala by countout ... Hercules Hernandez beat Steve Lombardi.

—Brian Spears

ROANOKE CIVIC CENTER (Roanoke, VA): The Rock 'n' Roll Express & Jimmy Valiant defeated The Midnight Express & Big Bubba ... Ron Garvin pinned Shaska Whatley ... Brad Armstrong defeated Jimmy Garvin by disqualification ... Tim Horner pinned Tony Zane ... Don Kernodle defeated The Grim Reaper ... Rocky Kernodle pinned Eddie Roberts.

—Eric Perkins

ROSEMONT HORIZON (Rosemont, IL): Hulk Hogan defeated Paul Orndorff in a steel cage match ... King Kong Bundy & John Studd beat Super Machine & Big Machine ... Lanny Poffo defeated Frenchy Martin ... Magnificent Muraco beat Junkyard Dog ... Jake Roberts and Tito Santana wrestled to a time-limit draw ... Nick Kiniski beat Barry O ... S.D. Jones defeated Steve Regal.

—Dajuan Pritchett

SPOKANE COLISEUM (Spokane, WA): The British Bulldogs pinned The Iron Sheik & Nikolai Volkoff ... Kamala won by countout over Tito Santana ... The Fabulous Moolah beat Velvet McIntyre ... Junkyard Dog beat Paul Orndorff by disqualification ... The Hart Foundation defeated Raymond Rougeau & Siva Afi ... Nick Kiniski pinned Les Thornton ... Steve Lombardi pinned Mark Young.

—Ryan Huston

TAYLOR COUNTY COLISEUM (Abilene, TX): Art Crews pinned Gary Young ... Chavo Guerrero defeated Sting ... Iceman Parsons pinned The Lybian ... Jack Victory & John Tatum beat The Fantastics ... Teny Gordy won by disqualification over One Man Gang.

—J.D. Woodall

THE MECCA (Milwaukee): Tom Stone pinned Brian Knobbs ... Alexis Smirnoff & Yuri Gordyenko defeated Earthquake Ferris & Ken Stackowitz ... Curt Hennig beat Col. DeBeers by disqualification ... Curt Hennig, Jimmy Snuka, & Jerry Blackwell defeated Buddy Rose, Doug Somers, & The Blaster ... Jerry Blackwell won a \$100,000 14-man battle royal.

—Dale Endres

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA BUTTERDOME (Edmonton, Alberta): David Shultz beat Paul Lauman for the ICWA title ... Bob Wayne pinned Drago Zchivago ... Rich Lauman & Jeff Bulat beat Doktor Blood & Hutch Thomas ... K.C. Houston beat Jessi Powers ... Mike Powers defeated P. Elliott Trudeau ... Ole Youngblood beat Jeffrey Johnson.

—David Montgomery

WHEELING CIVIC CENTER (Wheeling, WV): Tim Horner pinned The Grim Reaper ... Jimmy Valiant beat Bill Dundee ... Baron Von Raschke defeated Shaska Whatley ... Wahoo McDaniel and Manny Fernandez battled to a double-disqualification ... Ric Flair pinned Brad Armstrong ... The Kansas Jayhawks defeated Ivan Koloff & Krusher Khrushchev in a Texas tornado match.

—Michael Wadas

RECAP: Nikita Koloff and Dusty Rhodes have made appearances throughout the United States and are dominating their matches against Ric Flair and Tully Blanchard ... Hulk Hogan continues to show Paul Orndorff why he is WWF World champion ... Dark Journey has teamed with The Missing Link to embarrass archival Missy Hyatt and Eddie Gilbert on a number of cards ... Suddenly, there are more six-man tag team matches in the NWA. In most of these, The Midnight Express and Big Bubba have teamed to take on The Rock 'n' Roll Express and various partners ... Road Warrior Animal has wrestled as a solo while Hawk recovers from a broken leg. □

WRESTLING

ENQUIRER

JOHN TATUM ARRESTED

By DAVE ROSENBAUM

SHREVEPORT, LA—John Tatum faces a maximum 15 years in prison if convicted of charges against him as the result of a two-car accident in Natchez, Louisiana. Tatum was charged with negligent homicide, possession of marijuana, and possession of marijuana with intent to distribute after the vehicle he was driving struck the car driven by Jason Rachal at 9:49 p.m. on November 24. Rachal, 29, of Natchez, was pronounced dead at the scene.

According to Louisiana State Police reports, Tatum was attempting to pass three 18-wheel trucks on State Highway 1, a two-lane lighted road, when he struck the oncoming vehicle. Both Tatum and his passenger, Melinda S. White of Clearwater, Florida, were taken to Louisiana State University Medical Center in Shreveport. Tatum suffered two broken legs and White, 24, sustained numerous injuries. At

UWF Star Faces Stiff Charges After Auto Accident Kills Louisiana Man



UWF star John Tatum faces a series of charges, including negligent homicide, following his tragic car accident in Louisiana in November.

press time, Tatum was still in the hospital and was expected to be released shortly. White was discharged on December 2.

According to Lietuenant Alderman of the state police, it was raining on the night of the accident and neither driver had a chance to avoid the crash. Police allegedly discovered a half-pound of marijuana in Tatum's car. Tatum denies this and plans to plead not guilty to all charges.

"It was just an accident," said Tatum, who was on his way to a wrestling card in Shreveport. "I say they're not true charges. It wasn't negligence. It was raining and the other guy only had one headlight on. I'm aware of the charges and there was no marijuana in the car. I had none on me." Tatum said he was only trying to pass one truck, not the reported three. He said he plans to return to the ring by February.

Hair Today, Gone Tomorrow



Lawler



Bubba

By **PETER KING**

MEMPHIS—Bubba, number one contender to the Mid-Southern title, lost a hair vs. hair match against champion Jerry Lawler and was shaved bald.

To get a shot at Lawler's title, Bubba had to agree to an "anything goes, win any way you can, loser loses his hair match." During the match, Downtown Bruno, Bubba's manager, handed Bubba a little washcloth laced with ether. Bubba stuck the washcloth in Lawler's face and the champion passed out. Bubba then went in for the pin and prepared to shave Lawler.

But, at the last instant, promoter Eddie Marlin entered the ring. "Anything goes," he said, "but Downtown Bruno was not supposed to be in the match. I order that this match continue."

Suddenly, Lawler came to and broke a chair over Bubba's head. A stunned Bubba slumped to the mat and was easy prey for the pin. Lawler then had the pleasure of shaving his hated rival.

"That was one of the most enjoyable things I've ever done," said Lawler. "I'll tell you, though, if it wasn't for Eddie Marlin, you'd be talking to a bald person right now, and that wouldn't look too good. Now good ol' Blubba doesn't look too good."

Cornette Hurt; Baby Doll Fills In

By **BILL APTER**

ATLANTA—Jim Cornette was injured in a scaffold match at Starrcade here and will be replaced by former archrival Baby Doll until he returns.

Cornette underwent arthroscopic surgery in Humana Speciality Hospital to remove a piece of broken bone, some torn cartilage, and repair a torn ligament. The manager of The Midnight Express fell 20 feet after getting cornered by Road Warrior Animal and Paul Ellering at the top of the scaffold. The Road Warriors had already won the match.

"My mother was so upset by what happened that she called Baby Doll and asked her to babysit for The Midnight Express and Big Bubba," said Cornette. Baby Doll was given an honorary tennis racket by Dennis Condrey and Bobby Eaton and will be paid handsomely. "I don't know what she does, but the boys love her," Cornette said.

The rivalry between Cornette and Baby Doll is well-documented. Last June, Cornette smashed Baby Doll in



Jim Cornette is comforted by Big Bubba as a paramedic examines his knee.

the abdomen with his tennis racket and a month-long series of grudge matches at The Great American Bash followed. But after Baby Doll turned on Dusty Rhodes and befriended Ric Flair, Cornette's mother became fond of the valet.

Adias, Madril Win Tag Belts

By **STU SAKS**

FT. WORTH, TX—Less than a month after his startling attack on Mike Von Erich, Brian Adias teamed with Al Madril to defeat Lance Von Erich and Dingo Warrior for the World Class tag team title here.

"Turning on the Von Erichs was the best thing I ever did," said Adias after the match. "I would have never had this chance if I had stayed with those back-stabbing clowns, and I have my good friend Al Madril to thank. This goes to show everybody out there that you can't get anywhere by being friends with the Von Erichs. Take

note, Steve Simpson."

The victory came in controversial fashion. Lance delivered a dropkick from the top rope and appeared ready to pin Adias when Madril ran into the ring. Dingo Warrior also ran in and referee Rick Hazzard tried to remove both men. As he was getting rid of Dingo, Madril handed Adias a roll of coins. Adias whalloped Lance and scored the pin.

On the same card, Tony Atlas defeated Crusher Yurkov by disqualification for the World Class television title when manager Larry Sharpe interfered on behalf of the former champion.

AROUND THE GLOBE

TOKYO, JAPAN

The Japan Cup international tag team tournament got underway here as Tatsumi Fujinami and Keiji Muto defeated the team of Kendo Nagasaki and Mr. Pogo, and Akira Maeda and Osamu Kido scored a victory over Dick Murdoch and Masked Superstar.

Losing teams are not eliminated from the tournament, however, as a point system determines victory. Other teams involved in the tournament include George Takano and Kengo Kimura and Antonio Inoki and Yoshiaki Fujiwara.

MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Tom Magee, third runner-up in 1986's Rookie of the Year voting, captured the top spot in the Le Defi Mark 10

Strongman Challenge here. The win marks Magee's third consecutive victory in this contest. There were 10 events in the competition, including a 56-pound stone throw and a wheelbarrow race—with 2,700 pounds of weight in the wheelbarrow! Magee, by the way, set a world record in the 56-pound stone throw: 8.03 meters.

MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

Jackie Sato, one of the most respected new women wrestlers in Japan, lost a best-of-three-falls challenge here against Mexican women's champion Lola Gonzales. Gonzales, who was extended to a third fall for one of the few times in her career, has embarked on a major tour of Japan where she is expected to meet Sato again.